

## Aeroflot plane crashes in Pakistan

ISLAMABAD (AP) — An Aeroflot plane with 18 persons aboard crashed Saturday in rural southern Pakistan minutes after taking off from Karachi where it made an unscheduled landing earlier because of technical problems, officials said. There was no immediate word on the fate of the eight crewmen and 10 passengers. The plane was on its way from Yemen to Tashkent in Soviet Central Asia. It went down near the town of Nawabshah, 224 kilometres northeast of Karachi, the officials said. The crash occurred between 1200 and 1300 GMT, the officials said. They said the Soviet embassy in Islamabad was informed of the crash and that security police and civil aviation authorities were rushing to the site. A government spokesman here said the plane made an unscheduled landing at Karachi Saturday afternoon because of a "technical fault."

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## Holiday declared

AMMAN (Petra) — All government departments and public institutions will be closed on Saturday, Aug. 11, on the occasion of the 33rd anniversary of His Majesty King Hussein's accession to the throne, according to an official communiqué issued by Prime Minister Ahmad 'Obeidat Saturday.

## Four killed in Sudan air crash

KHARTOUM (AP) — Two pilots and two soldiers were killed Thursday when their helicopter crashed near the capital while on a routine flight, a statement by the armed forces general command said Saturday. The statement, carried by the Sudan News Agency, said the helicopter was on its way to Khartoum from Al Obeid, capital of Kordofan province, 380 kilometres southwest of Khartoum. It said it crashed 25 kilometres (15 miles) southwest of Khartoum. The cause of the crash was not mentioned in the statement.

## Poland releases two detainees

WARSAW (R) — Two Polish opposition leaders, dissident intellectual Adam Michnik and radical Solidarity activist Seweryn Jaworski, have been released from prison under a government amnesty, their friends said Saturday. Mr. Michnik, a member of the now-disbanded dissident group KOR, was taken to his apartment in Warsaw Saturday afternoon, they said. Mr. Jaworski, former deputy leader of the Warsaw branch of the outlawed trade union, was released Friday, they said.

## Bombs explode near U.S. mission in Calcutta

NEW DELHI (R) — Three bombs exploded near the American mission in Calcutta Saturday, sparking protests against the treatment of Indian competitors at the Los Angeles Olympics, the Press Trust of India (PTI) said Saturday. The demonstrators carried placards protesting against the action of some Sikhs during India's Olympic hockey match against the United States who shouted slogans demanding a separate Sikh state. The incident led to protests by Indian officials to the games organisers.

## Sinn Fein leader's brother charged

BELFAST, Northern Ireland (AP) — A brother of Sinn Fein President Gerry Adams, the leading figure in the legal Irish nationalist movement, was charged Friday with three terrorist offences including conspiracy to murder a policeman, Dominic Adams, 19, of Belfast, was accused of conspiring to murder a member of the Royal Ulster Constabulary and possession of a bomb and revolver. Mr. Adams, unemployed, sat silent in the dock as the charges were read to him. Gerry Adams was not in Belfast magistrate's court, although other members of the family sat in the public gallery.

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## Beirut alters mountain plan to suit all parties

BEIRUT (R) — The Lebanese army has amended its plan to deploy in the mountains east of Beirut, removing aspects unacceptable to Progressive Socialist Party (PSP) leader Walid Junblatt, official sources said Saturday.

Mr. Junblatt and his Shi'ite Muslim ally Nabih Berri, both government ministers, rejected the original version at a heated cabinet meeting last Wednesday on the grounds that it favoured their mostly Christian militia opponents.

Syrian mediation has persuaded all parties to approve the new proposals and the cabinet is expected to endorse them at a special session on Monday, the sources said. The amended plan envisages the army moving simultaneously into the mostly Druze PSP-held mountains southeast of Beirut and into predominantly Christian areas to the northeast, the sources added.

Mr. Junblatt complained that the original proposals covered only the Shouf and Aley areas, the strongholds of the PSP militia.

## Israeli patrol attacked

SIDON, Lebanon (R) — Resistance forces attacked an Israeli patrol near the South Lebanese port of Sidon with automatic weapons and grenades Saturday, but no Israelis were hit, security sources said.

The Israeli troops sprayed the area with machinegun fire and detained 10 people for questioning, the sources added.

The attack took place on the Sidon coast. A rocket-propelled grenade was fired at a position of the Israeli-backed "South Lebanon army" Friday night, security sources said.

The militiamen responded with heavy gunfire and grenades before Israeli soldiers arrived in armoured vehicles.

They cordoned off and illuminated the area, firing their guns as they searched for the attackers.

It was not immediately known if there were any casualties.

Earlier on Friday, the Israelis closed 50 shops in the market town of Nabatieh, 57 kilometres south of Beirut, after an attack on an Israeli patrol on Thursday.

## Olympic official retracts criticism of TV

LOS ANGELES (R) — International Olympic Committee (IOC) President Juan Antonio Samaranch has retracted his complaint that the U.S. ABC Television network's coverage of the Olympic Games tends to favour American athletes.

The IOC issued a statement late Saturday night after a scheduled meeting between Mr. Samaranch, IOC Director Monique Berlioux and Roone Arledge, president of the ABC News and Sport.

The statement said that during the meeting "the IOC expressed its satisfaction with ABC's tel-

## Paris begins official inquiry into Air France hijack

PARIS (R) — France began a full inquiry Saturday into an airliner hijacking which ended happily in Tehran but left a legacy of French suspicion towards the Iranian government.

With relations between Paris and Tehran at a low ebb, French newspapers have been accusing the Iranian government of complicity in the hijacking.

Their suspicions are centred on submachine-guns and plastic explosive which the three young Lebanese hijackers displayed and used in Tehran but were not previously seen by their hostages.

The Iranian Foreign Ministry said Saturday the hijackers had retrieved the arms from the baggage hold, telling officials at Tehran airport they were getting med-

Awali River, 17 kilometres beyond Damour.

Mr. Berri, leader of the Shi'ite militia Amal, wants to ensure quick and easy access to the Israeli-occupied south, which is overwhelmingly Shi'ite. The coast road is currently blocked at Damour, either by the Israelis or by the "Lebanese Forces."

The Lebanese army, re-united this summer after veteran politician Rashid Karami formed his "government of national unity," has already taken charge of security in most of Beirut.

But militiamen still appear on the streets from time to time, setting up checkpoints and driving around in military vehicles with impunity (Peace plan fails to rid Beirut of militias, page 2).

Residents of mainly Muslim West Beirut Saturday presented a petition to the chief Sunni Muslim mufti (religious leader), Sheikh Hassan Khaled, calling for an effective ban on armed manifestations.

Mr. Karami's eventual aim is to extend the government's authority throughout the country by persuading party militias to hand over their positions and arms to regular troops and police.

## Militia fighting claims more lives in Tripoli

TRIPOLI, Lebanon (AP) — Militias loyal and opposed to Syria traded hit-and-run grenade assaults and mortar barrages in Tripoli Saturday. Police said four more people were killed and 10 wounded in the new fighting for dominance of Lebanon's second-largest city.

Most of the overnight fighting was concentrated in the residential neighbourhoods of Baal Mohsen and Bab Tabaneh as well as in the city's seaside slums 80 kilometres north of Beirut, police said.

Taking the same pattern as in the previous two days, the fighting slackened at daybreak, allowing hundreds of students to go to their secondary school exams. Hostilities had broken out on Thursday and Friday shortly after the students had returned home at noon, according to police.

They said Saturday's toll brought the overall casualties to six killed and 21 wounded in the current round of on-again-off-again city warfare.

## Maksoud: Mideast cannot wait for U.S. elections

WASHINGTON (R) — Changes in the Middle East cannot wait until the United States presidential election in November, a senior Arab diplomat said Saturday.

Clovis Maksoud, Arab League representative in Washington and at the United Nations, told reporters a U.S. tendency to put the Middle East "on hold" pending the election result had been reinforced by the stalemate in last week's Israeli election.

"But developments in the Middle East will not hold," he said.

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The statement said that during the meeting "the IOC expressed its satisfaction with ABC's tel-

evision production of the games and felt that international broadcasters have received appropriate coverage...

"The president of the IOC congratulated ABC on the excellent electronic coverage of the Olympic Games."

The statement distinguished between the network's international feed, which it described as "neutral coverage including natural sound without commentary," and its national programming for American viewers.

The IOC also released the text of a letter Mr. Samaranch sent on Thursday to Peter Ueberroth, president of the Los Angeles Olympic Organising Committee.

"Many complaints have been transmitted to me regarding coverage by ABC of Olympic events. The coverage should be of an international nature, particularly for the victory ceremonies," it read.

The Los Angeles Times said Saturday that the complaints by Mr. Samaranch and a number of foreign athletes were concerned mainly with ABC's domestic show, which they have all been watching, and not with its separate world feeds.

A French External Relations Ministry spokesman said it was too early to draw conclusions on the events.

The right-wing daily Le Figaro said the appearance of guns and explosives aboard the plane had not been explained.

Relations between France and Iran have been soured by France's military support for Iraq in the Gulf war and the presence of several Iranian opposition leaders in Paris.

Mr. Bakhtiar, deposed President Abol Hassan Bani-Sadr and Mujahadeen leader Massud Rajavi have all taken refuge in France.

Iranian President Ali Khamenei Friday called French leaders "ignorant and stupid" and said they



Abol Hassan Bani-Sadr

## Bani-Sadr: Khomeini under intensive medical care

AMMAN (J.T.) — Iranian spiritual leader Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini's health is deteriorating fast and the 88-year-old Islamic revolutionary has been placed under intensive care by doctors in Tehran, former Iranian President Abol Hassan Bani-Sadr said Saturday.

Mr. Bani-Sadr, the first elected Iranian president since the overthrow of the monarchy in 1979, who fled Iran after falling out with Ayatollah Khomeini in 1981, told French Television in an interview that the Iranian Majlis (parliament) is holding intensive consultations to choose a successor to the highest Shi'ite Muslim religious leader.

Mr. Bani-Sadr, who lives in exile in Paris, also said that a power struggle is under way in Tehran to succeed Ayatollah Khomeini.

The Iranian economy is in shambles due to the continuing Iran-Iraq war, the former president said, adding that the current Iranian budget has a deficit of about \$8 billion and the country has a foreign debt of over \$60 billion.

Plans are under implementation to introduce changes in the Iranian system after Ayatollah Khomeini's death, Mr. Bani-Sadr said. He did not elaborate, and it was not clear whether he was referring to plans of the opposition or the top echelon now reigning in Tehran.

Mr. Bani-Sadr leads an Iranian exile group opposed to the Khomeini regime and the former president is believed to have a good number of followers inside Iran.

Another Iranian opposition leader, Massoud Rajavi, also lives in Paris and directs operations against the Khomeini regime within Iran of the Mujahadeen-e-Khalq guerrilla group.

sheltered "the ugliest international terrorists."

He warned that terrorism would increase against Western countries.

In an interview to the left-wing daily Le Monde, Mr. Bani-Sadr, the first elected chief of state of the Iranian Islamic republic, said the struggle for the succession of religious leader Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini had started.

He suggested that the hijack was the work of hardliners opposed to an opening to the West.

"They intensify their acts of sabotage in a bid to stop initiatives by the 'moderates' who seek a diplomatic opening towards the Western world and a peaceful settlement of the war against Iraq," he said.

## N. Yemeni minesweeper scours Red Sea waters

BAHRAIN (Agencies) — North Yemen is using its only minesweeper to search territorial waters for mines that might have caused mysterious explosions that damaged several ships recently in the Red Sea, sources in Sana'a reported Saturday.

North Yemen is trying to locate a reported minefield off its coast in the northern Red Sea, the sources told the Associated Press by telephone. They said it may be the first time the country has used its Soviet-built sweeper.

At least nine merchant ships have been damaged by explosions in the Gulf of Suez and the Red Sea since July 27, according to Lloyds shipping intelligence in London.

Officials at Hodeidah port, contacted by telephone, confirmed Saturday that three merchant vessels had been hit over the past three days by "underwater blasts" off the North Yemen coast sustaining minor damage.

They said two vessels, the 11,449-ton Greek motor vessel Kriti Coral and the 5,150-ton Turkish Morgul, one hit by a mine and the other by an explosion off the Yemeni coast on Thursday, had continued their journeys after minor repair at Hodeidah.

Shipping not disrupted

But Yemeni officials and shipping sources in Saudi Arabia said traffic had not been disrupted by the incidents. There had been no

apparent effect on oil movements from the Saudi Red Sea port of Yanbu.

The explosions off North Yemen followed other mysterious blasts which hit five merchant ships in the Gulf of Suez since June 10, prompting the Egyptian government to seek help of a U.S. survey team.

In Washington, defence officials said U.S. navy CH-53H mine-sweeping helicopters were on standby at Oceana naval air base near Norfolk, ready to go to the Gulf of Suez if needed to clear the water of mines.

The explosions followed a claim last week by a caller purporting to speak for a group calling itself the "Jihad Organisation" who told news agencies in London his group had planted 190 mines in the Gulf of Suez and Bab Al Mandeb.

Newspapers in the Gulf have expressed concern over the incidents, which they said aimed at undermining the security of countries along the Red Sea.

The mining of the Red Sea waters aims at creating havoc and striking at the economies of Red Sea countries... terrorism is increasing," the Bahrain Arabic-language weekly Al Adwa said in a commentary.

In the United Arab Emirates, the Arabic-language daily Al Ittihad said it did not exclude the reasoning that whoever was behind the mining of the Red Sea also benefited from the "tanker war"

South Yemen announced Friday it stood its neighbour in North Yemen to deter any threats to Sana'a's sovereignty or to maritime navigation in the Red Sea.

Aden Radio, in a commentary on the mine threats to shipping, warned of "attempts to create a new area of tension in the region."

North and South Yemen straddle the tip of the Arabian peninsula where the Red Sea opens into the Indian Ocean through the Strait of Mandeb.

"The Democratic Republic of Yemen stands by the Yemen Arab Republic in any attempt aimed at infringing on the sovereignty of Yemen or endangering its security or stability or threatening freedom of maritime navigation in the Red Sea," the radio commentary monitored said.

British newspapers said Saturday an Iranian-backed extremist Muslim group may be responsible.

The Financial Times, Britain's leading business daily, quoted Western observers in Cairo as saying the explosions "may be the work of a group backed by Iran."

The paper quoted a Western diplomat in Cairo as saying the most obvious conclusion was that the mines are connected with the Gulf war between Iran and Iraq.

What is behind the blasts in Suez? page 4

## Blast near 8th Circle causes little damage

AMMAN (Petra) — A small explosion occurred near an old furniture dump in Amman Friday morning causing very slight damage, the Interior Ministry announced Saturday. A statement issued by the ministry said the explosion, near an old oil tanker parked in a street near the Eighth Circle in Jubal Amman, occurred at 8 a.m.

The truck was parked to a side street near a yard where the U.S. embassy dumps old and unusable office furniture, the statement added. It said that as a result of a one-kilogramme TNT explosive charge damage was caused to one of the truck's back tyres only but there were no casualties. The statement added that investigations were under way.

## Herzog may announce premier-designate today

TEL AVIV (AP) — President Chaim Herzog is expected to announce early next week his choice to form Israel's new government, and Israeli media have predicted he will choose opposition Labour leader Shimon Peres.

Mr. Herzog may make his decision as early as Sunday whether Mr. Peres or incumbent Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir will be named prime minister-designate, Israeli television and radio said. Politicians' statements after meeting with Mr. Herzog made it clear that Mr. Peres had greater support.

Ami Gluska, Mr. Herzog's spokesman, gave no hint in a telephone interview who Mr. Herzog would pick, but he said the president "doesn't intend to delay his decision too long."

Mr. Shamir and Peres met for a total of eight hours on Wednesday and Thursday after Mr. Herzog persuaded them to try to reach agreement on forming a coalition to break the stalemate resulting from the July 23 general election.

But the two did not agree on which of them should become the new premier.

During these talks, Mr. Shamir, the first to call for such a coalition, proposed that whichever party gets the premiership, the other party should fill the defence and foreign affairs ministries. Mr. Peres refused to discuss this issue, and instead, limited the talks to economic and social issues.

Leaders from the Likud bloc said Mr. Herzog should delay his decision until the parties complete their talks, Israel Television said. In the general election, Labour won 44 seats to Likud's 41 in 120-seat Knesset, but neither was able to get a clear majority.

Israel television reported that 60 Knesset members support Mr. Peres, while 54 members back Mr. Shamir.

Jews, Arabs unite to oppose Kahane, page 2

## Aden pledges solidarity

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What is behind the blasts in Suez? page 4

## OAPEC postpones hearing on Syria-Iraq dispute

KUWAIT (R) — An arbitration panel looking into Syria's closure in 1982 of a pipeline pumping Iraqi oil across its territory has postponed a hearing scheduled for Sunday, a spokesman for the panel said.

The panel, a judicial tribunal set up under the auspices of the Organisation of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries (OAPEC), set no new date for the hearing.

The tribunal was expected to deliver a ruling on procedural matters before main issues are touched. But certain members are unable to attend a session Sunday, according to the spokesman, Riad Dawoudi.

Iraq, at war with Iran since September 1980, is pressing for a re-opening of the pipeline and compensation for lost revenue.

Iraq's oil exports have fallen by about two-thirds to around one million barrels a day since the pipeline through Syria to the Mediterranean was closed and its Gulf ports were blocked by the war. It now relies on an oil pipeline through Turkey.

The judicial tribunal last met in Kuwait on April 30, and adjourned its hearings to allow the submission of further documents.

Syria supports Iran in the Gulf war and argues that the closure was an act of sovereignty over its territory.

## Ariane 3 places two satellites in orbit

PARIS (Agencies) — Europe's powerful new Ariane 3 rocket smoothly placed two satellites into space orbit Saturday minutes after blasting off from a jungle launching ground in French Guiana.

West Europe's first two-satellite rocket, launched under a programme being conducted by the 11-nation European Space Agency (ESA), lifted off at Kourou Space Centre on the north coast of South America at 1333 GMT, 89 minutes behind schedule.

The delay was attributed by an ESA official to the failure of a device monitoring a valve, delaying the countdown at two stages. The valve itself was found to be working perfectly.

Some 18 minutes into its flight the Ariane injected the European Communications System satellite ECS 2 into orbit 36,000 kilometres above the equator.

The second satellite, Telecom 1 owned by France's telecommunications agency, followed into a similar orbit four minutes later.

Two strap-on solid fuel booster tanks which separated from the rocket after 40 seconds gave Ariane the extra power needed to push a 2.6 metric tonnes payload into space. The smaller Ariane 1 last May launched a 1.8 tonne American satellite.

Spectators watching a live relay of the launch in Paris cheered and visibly sighed with relief as the 48-metre gleaming white rocket lifted off from its launch pad.

Seven seconds into the flight the boosters ignited for a 30-second burn whose extra thrust made the rocket, the 10th launched in the ESA's Ariane programme, its most powerful to date.

The agency was set up in 1975 and groups the European Com-

munity members except Luxembourg and Greece with the addition of Spain, Sweden and Switzerland.

An ESA spokeswoman said that by the end of the 1980s the agency hoped to have almost 30 per cent of the satellite launch market, at present dominated by the United States.

The satellites are worth between \$25 and \$30 million each, according to ArianeSpace, a privately owned West German industrial and banking group which took over the launching of the rockets from the ESA last May.

The countdown began 28 hours before the launch, originally scheduled for 1204 GMT Saturday. Security around the base was tightened after a French left-wing group called Action Directe bombed the agency's headquarters in Paris on Thursday night (See page 8).



# Air France hijackers seek political asylum in Iran

TEHRAN (R) — The three hijackers of Air France jet who surrendered in Tehran on Thursday have asked for political asylum in Iran, a Foreign Ministry spokesman said Saturday.

The spokesman, quoted by the Iranian News Agency IRNA, said the hijackers were in detention while investigations continued.

The three had been identified as Muslims from Lebanon, IRNA reported the spokesman as saying. IRNA quoted the spokesman as saying the hijackers had retrieved arms and explosives from their baggage in the cargo hold on the pretext of getting medicine for a passenger.

French newspapers have accused the Iranian government of complicity in the hijack, which started on Tuesday when the Boeing 737 was commandeered on a flight from Frankfurt to Paris.

The hijackers had demanded the release of five men jailed in France for their part in a failed 1980 attempt to kill former Iranian Premier Shapur Bakhtiar.

French European Affairs Minister Roland Dumas, who headed a crisis team in Paris, said the gov-

ernment had not negotiated with the hijackers on the demand.

## Hostages relate ordeal

Some 60 hostages in the Air France hijack were Saturday recovering from their two-day ordeal which many of them said they had feared would end in disaster. The passengers and crew of the Boeing 737 who were freed at Tehran Airport on Thursday arrived in Paris late Friday night to a formal welcome by French Prime Minister Laurent Fabius.

Their nightmare over the hostages suddenly became celebrities as they were re-united with family and friends under the glare of television camera lights in the V.I.P lounge at Paris Orly Airport.

The hijack began on Tuesday when three young men seized control of the plane of a flight from Frankfurt to Paris, and forced the pilot to fly to Geneva, Beirut, Cyprus and finally Tehran.

After threatening to kill everybody on board, the hijackers eventually freed their hostages after fixing explosives which destroyed the cockpit moments later.

A key question put to the hostages on their arrival here was whether the hijackers had been given guns and explosives in Iran, an accusation made by most French newspapers.

Pilot Jean Nicol said the weapons were produced only after the plane, landed at Tehran, but he added: "We have absolutely no idea where they came from."

The first to see the guns was British Nurse Jane Wellington, who had been treating one of the hijackers for an eye complaint.

"I don't see how they could have brought them on at Frankfurt because we were all thoroughly searched," she said.

Many of the passengers said their worst moment came near the end in Tehran when one of them was threatened with a pistol and the hijackers fixed plastic explosives to the interior of the plane.

After the explosion, the hijackers, described Friday by President Khomeini as "three young

Arabs", surrendered to Iranian security forces.

There was no indication what happened to them subsequently. "I thought that was it. I thought it was the end," British businessman Jonathan Singleton told reporters.

Captain Nicol, asked if he thought the gunmen would carry out their death threat, said: "Yes, we believed they would."

Official sources in Paris said there would be a full government inquiry into the hijack, the latest in a series which have struck Air France over the past three years.

But as tension gave way to relief for the hostages, Iranian President Ali Khomeini warned that terrorism would increase against Western countries.

Addressing a prayers meeting in Tehran Friday, he said the ring-leaders of international terrorism were disguised as the leaders of big countries — notably France and the United States.

"They should take note that with their attitude, the wave of terrorism against them will intensify day by day," he said.

## Freij says West Bank situation deteriorating

KUWAIT (Petra) — Bethlehem Mayor Elias Freij has described the situation in the occupied Arab lands as extremely bad and continuously deteriorating.

Mr. Freij, who has just ended a visit to Washington and a tour of other countries to explain the condition of the Arab people under Israeli rule and the Palestine question, said that the West Bank municipalities are the last existing institutions elected in a democratic manner by the local population under occupation rule, and appealed to all Arab states to strengthen their steadfastness.

Mr. Freij was quoted by the Kuwaiti daily Al-Siyassah as saying that he received \$1 million from Saudi Arabia as a first instalment of Saudi aid in support of the steadfastness of Bethlehem, and the money will be used to finance development projects in the city.

Asked to comment on statements by Rabbi Meir Kahane, who said he plans to drive all Arabs from the occupied territories, Mr. Freij said that those were racist statements revealing "fascist and racist intentions."

"West Bankers have condemned these statements and I held talks with U.S. officials on this subject," Mr. Freij said.

"Kahane represents an example of those settlers coming from the U.S., and unfortunately has been gaining many supporters of late," Mr. Freij added.

## Iranian guards open fire on workers

PARIS (R) — An Iranian exile group said Friday Iranian Revolutionary Guards opened fire on striking workers at a Tehran soft drinks factory this week, injuring 10 and arresting a large number of others.

The Paris office of the People's Mujahedin said in a statement that workers at the Sasan (Canada Dry) Factory stopped work on Tuesday and staged a protest in the factory courtyard.

Revolutionary Guards and the prosecutor's office strike force charged into the factory and opened fire on the crowd, the statement said.

Some of the injured were still undergoing treatment in Tehran hospitals. The arrested workers had been taken to Evin Prison, it said.

The Mujahedin statement said that the workers had struck for "various professional and political motives, including the decision to withhold extra wages which had been paid to workers for many years." It gave no further details.

## Peace plan fails to rid Beirut of militias

By Tod Robberson  
Reuter

BEIRUT — Armed militiamen are still very much in evidence in Beirut at the end of the first month of a Syrian-backed peace plan which banned them from the streets.

The plan, in theory a historic step towards ending the nine year civil war, came into effect on July 4 when the army took over militia positions on the Green Line dividing the city.

But motorists using newly-reopened crossings between east and west Beirut are still likely to encounter militia checkpoints, often near army positions. The roads were closed after opposition militias seized control of west Beirut from the army on Feb. 6. For the next five months they fought almost non-stop against Falangist militiamen and army forces in the east.

Militia leaders finally agreed under the plan to disarm their forces in the capital and let the army take control, even giving it power to arrest militiamen if they carried arms or appeared in uniform in public.

But armed and uniformed militiamen are still on the streets — sometimes alongside army troops — and there are no signs of moves to force their withdrawal.

In West Beirut men of the mainly Druze Progressive Socialist Party (PSP) set up a checkpoint nightly just two blocks from Prime Minister Rashid Karami's office. Troops from the army's all-

Muslim Sixth brigade were seen recently driving through it and making no challenge to the militiamen. At an East-West crossing near Beirut Port Amal militiamen have several times detained motorists for identity checks while soldiers stood watching. The army has a checkpoint only 100 metres away.

On the other side of the port in east Beirut uniformed Lebanese Forces gunmen were seen this week driving along a coastal road aboard military trucks, again only metres from an army checkpoint.

When U.S. Marines this week withdrew from guardposts outside the old American embassy in west Beirut to rejoin ships of the U.S. Sixth Fleet, it was PSP militiamen

who remained. A Muslim army lieutenant expressed a similar view on July 4 as soldiers replaced militiamen along the Green Line, saying: "We have no real problem with Amal. They are our people."

The continued militia presence reflects a reluctance among militia leaders to let the army have full sway on security.

PSP leader Walid Junblatt, a member of the National Unity government, told militiamen in Beirut last month they "must remain on the alert. The battle might recur."

He said the PSP had "a great number of sophisticated weapons and we need many men (to train on them)." "Lebanese Forces" militiamen Nabil Zoghby remarked last Saturday as he watched army engineers dismantle barricades on the Green Line: "I don't know why they bother. Everybody fights for a few months, then they go home and take a rest. But in another few months, they'll be back here again."

Many people here blame both

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rather than the army that provided armed cover for their withdrawal.

On a seaside boulevard near the embassy the militiamen still maintain a checkpoint they established in February.

In some cases militiamen try to skirt the peace plan by keeping their guns out of sight and wearing civilian clothes while manning checkpoints.

Amal fighters recently explained that civilians do not have to stop at the "voluntary" checkpoints. But a party-uniformed militiaman added: "If we tell you to stop, you had better stop. I shot a man last week because he didn't stop."

Many people here blame both

## Libya seeks to improve ties with Egypt

CAIRO (R) — Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi has recently sent a personal envoy to Egypt in an attempt to improve bilateral relations, the mass-circulation newspaper Al-Ahram reported Saturday.

The editor of the weekly newspaper, Ibrahim Seada, in a signed article said the Libyan envoy came in the middle of last month and met several senior Egyptian officials.

"The envoy expressed Col. Qadhafi's keen desire to improve Libyan relations with Egypt," he said.

Mr. Seada said Cairo has welcomed Col. Qadhafi's initiative but similar attempts over the past two years to patch up his differences with Egypt did not produce any positive results.

Egyptian officials were not immediately available to comment on the report.

Relations between the two countries have been strained since the Arab-Israeli war of 1973 due to political differences.

The two neighbours fought a border war in 1977 and relations worsened after Egypt signed its peace treaty with Israel in 1979.

Egypt had repeatedly accused Libya of carrying out sabotage attempts in Sudan, a top ally, but the charges have been denied by Libya.

## FBI investigating confidential document leak to Israeli group, newspaper says

AMMAN (R) — The Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) is investigating how the major pro-Israel lobbying group obtained a copy of a classified document that spells out American negotiating strategy in trade talks with Israel, government officials were quoted by Washington Post as saying.

The document, a report from the International Trade Commission to U.S. Trade Representative William E. Brock, contains proprietary data supplied by American industries and other sensitive information for the negotiations, which began early this year, the report said.

Trade officials said the report would give Israel a significant advantage in the trade talks because it discloses how far the United States is willing to compromise on contested issues. Some of the

proprietary information, moreover, could help Israeli businesses competing with U.S. companies, officials said, the report added.

According to the Post a spokesman for the American Israel Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC), the principal pro-Israel lobbying group in this country, acknowledged that the organization had a copy of the report but said the lobbying group did nothing illegal.

On April 13 the National Association of Arab Americans (NAAA) testified before the U.S. Trade Policy Committee against establishing a Free Trade Area with Israel, according to an NAAA press release.

Calling the idea dangerous, the NAAA pointed out that the proposal would threaten domestic industries and contradict broader

U.S. foreign policy objectives, while providing questionable benefits to the American economy.

"The size of the Israeli economy, its considerable instability and the high level of government intervention present inherent limitations for U.S. exports," said Nizar Jwaideh, deputy executive director of NAAA. "Furthermore, Israeli objectives of dramatically increasing the level of high technology exports directly endanger our own high technology industries. And we should not ignore the fact that Israel's policies over the past years in occupied Arab territories of the West Bank, Gaza, East Jerusalem, the Golan Heights and southern Lebanon — an area more than twice the size of Israel itself — have created enormous problems for the United States and have effectively undermined U.S. peace efforts."

## Israelis, Arabs unite to oppose Kahane

TEL AVIV — Israeli Jews and Arabs united to mount a rally Saturday as part of an intensifying effort to oppose extremist Rabbi Meir Kahane, who won a seat in parliament last month on an anti-Arab platform.

Since his election politicians, police and legal experts have sought ways to counter the influence of the American-born rabbi, who wants to expel Israel's 650,000 Arab citizens and the 1.3 million Palestinians under Israeli rule in the occupied territories.

Jews and Arabs were to march against Kahane in a rally in the Arab village of Umm Al Faham, where Kahane has vowed to set up an emigration office to sign up Arabs willing to leave Israel.

Arabs from nearby villages, members of collective agricultural kibbutz settlements, left-wing politicians and conservative rabbis were expected to attend.

The rabbis arrived to stay with

Arab families in Umm Al Faham Friday to avoid desecrating the Jewish sabbath by travelling on the day of rest.

"We feel it is important that the Arab citizens of Israel see with their eyes a rabbi doesn't mean a racist," said Rabbi Jeremy Milgram.

Kahane has vowed to make full use of the parliamentary immunity he now enjoys to press his anti-Arab stance. He has already led supporters through markets in occupied Jerusalem, telling stall vendors he planned "to take care of the Arabs."

Kahane, who first gained publicity as the leader of the militant New York-based Jewish Defence League, has been jailed more than 20 times in Israel for attacking Arabs.

Three of his supporters have been arrested since the election for trying to disrupt an Arab press conference in Tel Aviv and police

are investigating complaints that other Kahane supporters beat up two bedouin Arabs in the Negev Desert.

President Chaim Herzog broke with tradition by refusing to invite Kahane to coalition consultations, the first time an elected party has ever been excluded from the talks. Kahane, whose Kach Party won 25,000 votes, vowed to force his way into the president's residence but when he arrived and was firmly told by police he could not enter he quietly left.

Police officials have already sought advice from the attorney general to determine legal ways of coping with Kahane.

Former Prime Minister Menachem Begin has briefly emerged from self-imposed seclusion to condemn Kahane's election.

Jerusalem Mayor Teddy Kollek has headed a petition calling for anti-racism legislation aimed at thwarting Kahane.

## Iraq, Kuwait discuss Gulf war

KUWAIT (AP) — An Iraqi delegation conferred Saturday with the Emir of Kuwait, Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmed Al Sabah on the latest developments in the 46-month-old Iran-Iraq war and navigation in the Gulf.

The Iraqi delegation, led by the Deputy Chairman of the Iraqi Revolution Command Council, Ezzat Ibrahim, had arrived unexpectedly earlier in the day and held extensive talks with the Crown Prince-Prime Minister Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah Al Sabah.

The delegation included the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Hamed Alwan, the Minister of Transport Abdul-Jabbar Al Assadi, and the Under-Secretary of the Ministry of Petroleum, Abdul Monem Al Samarrat.

Attending the talks on the Kuwaiti side were the Defence Minister and Acting Oil Minister, Sheikh Salem Al Sabah and top officials of the Kuwaiti ministries of foreign affairs and petroleum.

Informed sources said the latest developments in the northern Gulf war, including the status of navigation in the Gulf oil tanker lanes, and efforts to seek a peaceful solution to the war were discussed.

The two sides comprehensively appraised the military, political and economic aspects of the war in light of the apparent lull in the so-called tanker war and the peace overtures that have emanated from Tehran lately, the sources said.

## Syria got new Soviet missiles, report says

AMMAN (J.T.) — During the Lebanese civil war, the U.S. Sixth Fleet appeared off Lebanon in imposing array. Carrier planes and the USS New Jersey's big guns pounded Syrian positions with virtual impunity, according to a report published in the Washington Post recently.

This caused consternation in the Kremlin, the post quoted intelligence sources. "Though the Lebanon intervention ultimately ended in failure for the United States, the Soviets learned a lesson from the U.S. power play," the report said.

"Now they have reportedly taken measures to counter the threat posed by the Sixth Fleet,"

classified intelligence reports indicated that the Kremlin has provided Syria with long-range, surface-to-surface missiles capable of blowing U.S. warships out of the water.

Pentagon sources have identified the missiles as the latest and most sophisticated in the Soviet arsenal: "Short-to-sea missiles, with a flat trajectory like the cruise missile," a 150-mile range and a short reaction time. They have just been deployed along the Syrian coast.

This means that any craft in the eastern Mediterranean can be sunk.

"In naval warfare, reaction time is what really counts," one well-

placed source was quoted by the Post as saying. "This missile gives the Sixth Fleet very limited reaction time." Earlier, the Soviets also rushed to Syria several SS21s, with a 75-mile range and a 15-minute reaction time.

According to a Pentagon report, the SS21 is a ground-to-ground missile "mounted on a transporter-erector-launcher," which gives it mobility. Even more ominous, "the missile payload may consist of a low-yield nuclear, chemical or (conventional) warhead."

The anti-ship missiles will make any replay of the Sixth Fleet's show of strength extremely risky.

## TV & RADIO

### JORDAN TELEVISION

MAIN CHANNEL  
15:00 Koran  
15:30 Olympic Soccer  
16:40 Review of the Olympics  
17:00 News in Arabic  
17:30 Arabic Series  
18:00 Review of the Olympics  
18:30 News in Arabic  
19:00 Varieties  
20:00 Olympics: Live transmission from Los Angeles

### FOREIGN CHANNEL

18:00 French Programme  
19:00 News in French  
19:30 News in Hebrew  
20:00 News in Arabic  
20:30 War and Peace  
21:30 Best Seller  
22:00 News in English  
22:15 Best Seller Contd.

### RADIO JORDAN

855 KHz. AM & 99 MHz. FM & partly on 9500 KHz. SW

07:00 Light Music  
07:30 Newsday  
08:00 Morning Show  
08:30 News Summary  
09:00 Morning Show  
10:00 News Summary  
11:00 Pop Session  
12:00 News Summary  
12:05 Pop Session  
13:00 News Summary  
14:00 News Bulletin  
14:10 Instruments  
14:30 Science Report  
15:00 Concert Hour  
16:00 News Summary  
16:05 Instruments  
16:30 Old Favorites  
17:00 News Summary  
18:00 News Summary  
18:05 Jazz Hour  
19:00 Newsday  
19:30 Date with a Star  
20:00 Evening Show  
21:00 News Summary  
21:05 News Summary  
22:00 Evening Show  
23:00 News Summary  
23:05 Evening Show  
24:00 News Headlines

### BBC WORLD SERVICE

630, 720, 1413 KHz

06:00 Newsday 06:30 Wimbledon Preview 06:45 Financial Review 06:55 Religious Service 07:00 World News 07:30 Good Books 07:45 Letter from America 08:00 Newsday 08:30 Jazz for the Asking 09:00 World News 09:00 24 Hours News Summary 09:15 From Our Own Correspondent 09:30 Syng at Large 09:50 Recording of the Week 10:00 World News 10:00 Reflections 10:15 The Picture of the Week 11:00 World News 11:05 British Press Review 11:15 Science in Action 11:45 Sports Review 12:15 From Our Own Correspondent 12:30 Religious Service 13:00 World News 13:10 World Picture In: It's Your World 13:35 News from Britain 14:00 Play of the Week 15:00 World News 15:30 The Tony Moya Request Show 16:30 Twelve Good Men and True 17:00 Radio Newsweek 17:15 Concert Hall 18:00 World News 18:09 Commentary 18:15 From our own Correspondent 18:35 Financial Review 18:45 Letter from America 19:00 World News 19:05 Meridian 19:30 Financial Review 19:40 Reflections 19:45 Sports Round-up 20:00 Newsday 20:30 Brain of Britain 1984 21:00 Music For a While 21:15 Gannous Music 22:00 World News 22:05 24 Hours: News Summary 22:30 Sunday Half-Hour 23:00 Zoo Walk 23:15 Europe Goes To The Polls 24:00 World News 00:00 Science in Action 00:40 Reflections 00:45 Sports Round-up 01:00 World News 01:09 Commentary 01:15 Letter from America 01:30 The Left-Handed Sleeper

### VOICE OF AMERICA

MW 1260, KHz. 7200, 9565, 11740, 14925 & 15310

06:00 VOA Morning News on the hour: news summaries, daily business report, science and medicine, sports reports, VOA editorial and world and U.S. opinion roundups; documentary analysis; features 17:00 News 17:10 New Horizons and New Products 17:30 Special English News and Features 18:00 Newsday 18:30 Date with a Star 19:00 Evening Show 21:00 News Summary 21:05 News Summary 22:00 Evening Show 23:00 News Summary 23:05 Evening Show 24:00 News Headlines

## WHAT'S GOING ON

### TODAY'S EVENTS

#### EXHIBITION

\* Exhibition of a collection of paintings by local and international artists at Alsa Art Gallery.

#### PLAY

\* A national musical play to be performed Thursday at the Department of Culture and Arts Centre.

### CULTURAL CENTRES

Royal Cultural Centre Tel. 6610267  
American Centre 44371  
Turkish Cultural Centre 361474  
French Cultural Centre 37004  
Goethe Institute 41993  
Soviet Cultural Centre 44203  
Spanish Cultural Centre 23439  
Turkish Cultural Centre 39777  
Haya Arts Centre 665105  
Husseini Youth City 667181  
W.C.A.A. 41793  
Y.W.M.C.A. 664251  
Amman Municipal Library 36111  
University of Jordan Library 843555

### MUSEUMS

Folklore Museum: Jewelry and costumes over 100 years old. Also mosaics from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 14th centuries). The Roman Theatre, Amman. Opening hours: 9.00 a.m. - 5 p.m. Year-round. Tel. 51760.  
Jordan Archaeological Museum: Has an excellent collection of the antiquity of Jordan. Jabal Al Qaf'a (Citadel Hill). Opening hours: 9.00 a.m. - 5.00 p.m. 1 Fridays and official holidays 10.00 a.m. - 4.00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays.  
Jordan National Gallery: Contains a collection of paintings, ceramics, and sculpture by contemporary Islamic artists from most of the Muslim countries and a collection of paintings by 19th century orientalist artists. Montazah, Jabal Luweibid. Opening hours: 10.00 a.m. - 1.30 p.m. and 3.30 p.m. - 6.00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays. Tel. 30128.

### MEMORIAL (Military Museum)

Collection of military memorabilia dating from the Arab Revolt of 1916. Sports City, Amman. Opening hours: 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Closed Saturdays. Tel. 664240.  
Popular Life of Jordan Museum: 100 to 150 year old items such as costumes, weapons, musical instruments, etc. Opening hours: 9.00 a.m. - 5.00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays. Tel. 37169.

### SERVICE CLUBS

Amman Club: Meetings every first and third Wednesday at the Holiday Inn, 1.30 p.m.  
Lions Club: Meetings every second and fourth Wednesday at the Amman Hotel, 7.30 p.m.  
Philadelphian Club: Meetings every Wednesday at the Holiday Inn, 1.30 p.m.  
Rotary Club: Meetings every Tuesday at the International Hotel, 2.00 p.m.  
Royal Automobile Club, Jabal Amman, Eighth Circle. Tel. 81261.

### CHURCHES

St. Joseph Church (Roman Catholic) Jabal Amman, tel. 24590.  
Church of the Annunciation (Roman Catholic) Jabal Luweibid, 37440.  
De la Salle Church (Roman Catholic) Jabal Hussein, 661757.  
Church of the Annunciation (Greek Orthodox) Abdali, 23541.  
Anglican Church (Church of the Redeemer) Jabal Amman, 41559.  
Armenian Catholic Church Ashrafieh, 717331.  
Armenian Orthodox Church Ashrafieh, 715261.  
St. Ephraim Church (Syrian Orthodox) Ashrafieh, 771751.  
Armenian Apostolic Church (Interdenominational) meets at Southern Baptist School in Shmeisani, 663249.

### PRAYER TIMES

03:19 Fajr  
04:53 Sunrise Shurub  
11:42 Dhuhur  
15:37 Asr  
18:37 Maghreb  
20:03 Isha

## FOR THE TRAVELLER

### AMMAN AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Alia Information department at the Queen Alia International Airport, tel. (08) 535350, 535070, 535082, 535171, where it should always be verified.

#### ARRIVALS

06:00 Cairo (MS)  
09:15 Dubai, Abu Dhabi (RJ)  
09:30 Athens (RJ)  
09:45 Cairo (RJ)  
09:45 Jeddah (RJ)  
10:00 Beirut (RJ)  
10:30 Doha, Riyadh (SV)  
10:30 Tripoli, Larnaca (LN)  
10:40 Jeddah (RJ)  
10:45 Baghdad (LA)  
10:50 Brussels, Frankfurt (RJ)  
17:35 Los Angeles, Chicago, Vienna (RJ)  
17:35 London, Paris (RJ)  
17:40 Madrid, Geneva (RJ)  
17:40 New York, Amsterdam (RJ)  
18:00 Rome (RJ)  
18:30 Cairo (RJ)  
19:25 Beirut (MEA)  
19:30 Athens (DA)  
20:50 Cairo (MS)  
00:00 London (BA)  
01:00 Baghdad (RJ)  
01:10 Baghdad (RJ)

#### DEPARTURES

06:10 Damascus, Frankfurt (LH)  
06:15 Cairo (RJ)  
06:30 Beirut (RJ)  
07:00 Cairo (MS)  
07:15 Athens (RJ)  
08:00 Damascus, Paris (AF)  
08:15 Beirut (MEA)  
09:00 Damascus, Rome (AZ)  
11:00 Vienna, New York (RJ)  
11:45 Tunis, Casablanca (RJ)  
11:45 Larnaca, Berlin (IF)  
12:15 Riyadh, Dhahran (SV)  
12:30 Larnaca (RJ)  
14:30 Cairo (RJ)  
15:30 Larnaca, Tripoli (LN)  
15:40 Kuwait (KUL)  
16:40 Jeddah (SV)  
18:00 Baghdad (LA)  
18:30 Kuwait (RJ)  
19:45 Dhahran (RJ)  
20:00 Bahrain, Muscat (RJ)

### MARITIME TRAFFIC



## 'No real unemployment,' labour minister says

AMMAN (J.T.) — Labour Minister Tayseer Abdul Jaber said Friday evening that Jordan does not suffer from real unemployment as there are various job opportunities available.

But, he said, job seekers are continuously looking for certain specific occupations which they cannot readily find. The minister who was speaking in a television interview said that school and uni-

versity graduates should be made to understand that they must accept any available reasonable job until a better opportunity presents itself.

At present job opportunities are limited for people with specific skills and this has resulted from the current world economic recession which has affected Jordan and all Middle East countries, Dr. Abdul Jaber said.

### NEWS IN BRIEF

#### Road accident claims another life

IRBID (J.T.) — A woman was killed and four others injured in a road accident involving two cars near the Ramtha crossroads. Also 10 other persons were injured in another road accident involving a car and a bus near Huwara in Irbid governorate. All the injured people were admitted Friday to Princess Basma Hospital for treatment.

#### Court sentences drug dealers

AMMAN (Petra) — The military court has sentenced Ali Hussein Ali Eysadeh to ten years in prison with hard labour and fined him JD 5,000 for importing and dealing in opium and narcotics. The military court also sentenced Khaled Mustafa Al Mees to life imprisonment with hard labour on a similar charge. The military governor endorsed the sentences.

#### Ministry to hold anti-malaria course

AMMAN (Petra) — A training course for a number of specialists in malaria will be held on Oct. 6 by the Ministry of Health. The 18-day course comes in response to requests received by the ministry from a number of Arab countries to train several of their specialists in combating malaria and transferring the experience gained by Jordan in this field to other countries.

#### Mines increase phosphate outputs

AMMAN (Petra) — The quantity of phosphate produced by the Jordan Phosphate Mines Company reached 512,744 tonnes during July, an increase of 132,465 tonnes over the same month of last year. Al Hasa mine ranked first in the production of phosphate with 285,827 tonnes while Al Wadi Al Abyadh mine came second with a production figure of 174,638 tonnes.

#### 120 teachers receive lessons

IRBID (Petra) — A training course for teachers in the first three elementary classes opened Saturday in Mafrq. More than 120 women teachers are attending the 12-day course designed to improve their efficiency in teaching methods. All participants are employed by the Ministry of Education.

#### Soviet-Arab trade to be reviewed

AMMAN (Petra) — The Board of Directors of the Arab-Soviet Chamber of Commerce will hold a meeting in Moscow on Aug. 21, during which the Jordanian and Soviet sides will discuss means of cementing co-operation and trade exchange between the Arab countries and the Soviet Union. Jordan's delegation to the meetings will be headed by President of the Federation of the Jordanian Chambers of Commerce Hamdi Al Tabha'a.

## Amman, Madaba district villages receive electricity

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordanian Electric Power Company (JEPCO) has completed the electrification of a number of villages in the districts of Amman and Madaba, acting director general of the JEPCO, Mr. Marwan Bushnaq, has said.

Mr. Bushnaq said that the villages of Um Al Basatin, Um Al Birak, Um Al Asaker and Um Rumanah were connected to the electrical power network last month. He also said that the villages of Qastal, Thiban, Jizeh and Talbikh camp are expected to be supplied with power within one month.

Mr. Bushnaq added that work is currently underway for installing electrical networks in the villages of Jarinah, Ghirnat, Faisaleh, Rawdah and Mansura in Madaba district in preparation for connecting them to the electric power system.

## Women's federation to participate in Arab children's visit

AMMAN (Petra) — The Jordanian Women's Federation (JWF) will take part in hosting the Arab children who will visit Jordan during the period Aug. 11 to Aug. 20 at the invitation of Her Majesty Queen Noor.

The JWF's participation will take the form of visits to the governorates of Jordan to look at the various landmarks of the country. President of the Amman Governorate's Women's Federation Sihani Al Qasem said that the programme in Amman Governorate will include visits to the popular-life museum, Al Qala'a, the martyr's monument, the Al Hussein Youth City, the Haya Arts and Cultural Centre and the fun fair city in Ras Al Aio.

## Industry chamber circulates Ethiopian trade protocol list

AMMAN (Petra) — The Amman Chamber of Industry Saturday distributed to Jordanian companies a list of products attached to a trade protocol signed between Jordan and Ethiopia.

The list includes items that can be bought by merchants from both countries worth up to \$35 million. The chamber also requested that Jordanian merchants name the commodities they wish to sell to Ethiopia and that they submit a list to the chamber as soon as possible.

## Yusuf announces new police appointments

AMMAN (Petra) — Ten senior police officers have been appointed to new positions as from Aug. 4 in accordance with a decision by Public Security Director Major-General Diab Yusuf. The list of announced appointments is as follows:

Brigadier-General Sami Al Saket will become assistant public security director for back-up police units. Brig.-Gen. Issa Al Omari will become assistant public security director for administration affairs. Brig.-Gen. Nasouh Muhieddin will become assistant public security director for police legal affairs. Brig.-Gen. Mohammad Yusuf

'Obeidat will become assistant public security director for operations and inspection.

Brig.-Gen. Ghazi Jarrar will become director of the Amman police.

Brig.-Gen. Faleh Al Gharaibeh will become director of Balqa police.

Brig.-Gen. Ghaleb Al Dumur will become director of suburban police units.

Colonel Abdul Rahman Al 'Udwai will become director of Irbid police.

Col. Ahmad Al Khasawneh will become director of police legal affairs.

Col. Mu'ayad Al Mubaslat will become director of aliens and frontiers affairs.

## MEA resumes Amman flights; Alia to re-open Beirut office

AMMAN (J.T.) — The first Lebanese plane to arrive in Amman for 155 days was a Middle East Airline plane which landed at the Queen Alia International Airport Friday evening.

The last Middle East Airline flight to arrive here was on Feb. 7 when it risked taking off from Beirut escaping a heavy exchange of artillery shelling. The passengers of the Lebanese plane were then taken care of and arrangements were made to secure their arrival to their different destinations. Alia, the Royal Jordanian Air-

line, resumed flights to Beirut last month when it was announced that the city's airport was open to traffic following the implementation of the government's security plan in the Lebanese capital.

A spokesman for Alia said Saturday that the airline's offices in Beirut will re-open on Monday to resume normal functions and services for passengers between Jordan and Lebanon. The offices have been closed due to the civil war in Lebanon.

## University registration, academic seminars open

AMMAN (Petra) — Two seminars on academic guidance and registration systems in universities opened at the Yarmouk University Liaison Office Saturday.

In a speech to the delegates representing 13 Arab states Yarmouk University President Adnan Badran said that the two seminars will be devoted to discussing problems impeding registration and will tackle ways of guiding students in the first stages of their academic studies.

Dr. Badran, said that the credit-hour system is one of the most up to date systems now in use around the world and offers flexibility to the students, especially those with creative capabilities, to finish their courses earlier.

Also addressing the session was Dr. Khaled Al Omari, director of

the department of higher education, who said that the seminars would help improve the skills and of those employed in registration offices in Arab universities.

The seminar on academic guidance will discuss research papers on study planning and ways to solve problems for students. The seminar on registration and admission will review six research papers on the development of the credit-hour system, as well as admission and registration processes, in addition to the advantages of using computers.

Delegates from Iraq, Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, the United Arab Emirates, Mauritania, Libya, Sudan, Algeria, Somalia, Syria, North and South Yemen in addition to Jordan are attending the seminars.

## Ibn Tarif returns from freight discussions

# UPU rejects motion to oust Israel despite Arab calls

AMMAN (J.T.) — A motion presented by Arab states to the Universal Postal Union (UPU) conference in Hamburg to expel Israel from its ranks was turned down by the conference chairman despite a sufficient number of votes to pass the motion, according to Under-Secretary of the Ministry of Communications Mansour Ibn Tarif who has just returned from the conference.

Mr. Ibn Tarif said that the chairman suggested that the expulsion issue be postponed but his proposal was met with protests from Arab delegates. However, another motion by African states for expelling South Africa from the UPU was passed unopposed, Mr. Ibn Tarif said. The United States had threatened to withdraw from the UPU if Israel was expelled, Mr. Ibn Tarif said.

The UPU conference was opened on June 16 by former West German President Karl Carstens and lasted until July 27. The con-

ference was attended by 800 delegates representing 166 nations.

According to Mr. Ibn Tarif the delegates discussed issues pertaining to postal services and freight charges in addition to other related topics.

The conference recommended that charges on all letters be raised by 50 per cent as of 1986 but kept air transportation charges for postal material unchanged, Mr. Ibn Tarif said.

Mr. Ibn Tarif delivered a speech to the conference in which he outlined postal services in the country



Mansour Ibn Tarif

and presented a plan for improving postal services around the world. He also held talks with a number of delegations attending the conference.

The UPU was formed in Bern, West Germany 110 years ago by 22 countries and its present 166 member states include almost every nation.

## Welfare fund opens training course, discusses services for the handicapped

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Queen Alia Jordan Welfare Fund (QAJWF) opened a training course Saturday for leaders and administrators employed by Jordanian charitable and voluntary societies.

A QAJWF spokesman said that 35 participants from the governorates of Karak, Ma'an, Balqa, Madaba and Zarqa are attending. Following this six-day course, the QAJWF will open a similar one in Irbid, which is to last from Aug. 14 to Aug. 20, and which will be attended by representatives of societies in Irbid, Mafrq and Jerash governorates, the spokesman said.

He said that the courses, held in co-operation with the Institute of Public Administration, are within a comprehensive programme for improving the work and activities of the voluntary societies in Jordan. Participants will hear lectures on the concepts of social work, ways for developing local communities and social and labour legislations in addition to subjects connected with financial matters of the charitable societies. They will also draw up plans for their future activities and will discuss financing these programmes from different sources, the spokesman added.

At present the QAJWF is holding a training course for staff employed in centres for the rehabilitation of the handicapped. According to Mr. Abdullah Abu Al 'Atta, head of the QAJWF's social affairs department, the courses are designed to develop services offered to handicapped persons in Jordan.

So far, the QAJWF has established four centres in Amman, Irbid, Karak and Yajouz, complete with modern equipment to help the handicapped adapt to society, Mr. Abu Al 'Atta said.

### Inter-marriages

One of the lecturers, Dr. Mohammad Al Sukhn, said that inter-marriages among close relatives, lack of proper care of pregnant women who sometimes take medicine without consulting doctors and giving children anti-diarrhoea drugs can cause handicaps and can also damage children's hearing.

The total number of handicapped people in Jordan, according to recent surveys conducted by the Ministry of Social Development, stands at 18,829 but this figure is not accurate and is probably much bigger, Dr. Al Sukhn said. It is estimated that there are 70

million handicapped people in the world of which 70 per cent are children not exceeding 15 years of age and only 12 million live in the developed nations, according to Dr. Hani Thukhreddin, a specialist in the rehabilitation of the physically disabled at Al Hussein Medical City.

He said that the World Health Organisation (WHO) expects that there will be 150 million handicapped people in the world by the year 2000, of which only 25 million will be living in the developed world.

A specialist in rehabilitating mentally retarded children, Miss Hala Tu'ma Ibrahim, said that the reason for the existence of a high rate of handicapped children in developing nations is due mainly to hereditary factors and marriages among relatives.

During the training course, the participants will hear lectures about the difficulties which handicapped people encounter to adapt to various situations and will also discuss ways to help them overcome such difficulties, Miss Ibrahim said.

She also said that no medicine is given in the treatment course but handicapped children are taught skills and given information to help them overcome their handicap.

## Ground-breaking ceremony opens new phase for ACOR

By Rami G. Khouri  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Exhorting friends and supporters that "we still have a long way to go", Prince Ra'd Ibn Zeid Saturday officially broke ground at the site of the permanent building of the American Centre of Oriental Research, which will be constructed during the coming 18 months.

The ceremony marks the culmination of the first phase of a fund-raising drive that aims to collect \$3 million, half to finance the permanent building of the American Centre of Oriental Research (ACOR) and the other half to fund an endowment that would put ACOR on sound financial ground for many years to come.

The ACOR fund-raising committee, under the patronage of Crown Prince Hassan and the chairmanship of Prince Ra'ad, has raised \$1.28 million dollars to date in grants and pledges, thanks to the efforts of many members of the committee both in Jordan and the United States.

The actual construction of the ACOR building, on a hilltop across the street from the University of Jordan, should start next month. The three-storey building will have a covered area of some 1,500 metres, and will include a library, residential accommodations, workshops and facilities for lectures and classes.

The ground-breaking ceremony coincided with the 15th anniversary of ACOR's presence in Jordan, a period during which it has developed into one of the most respected institutes of its kind in the Middle East, as well as a symbol of American-Jordanian co-operation in the field of archaeology and history.

In recognition of its exemplary work, ACOR has received a substantial grant from the United States Agency for International Development's Office of American Schools and Hospitals Abroad — the first time that an archaeological institute of this kind has ever been supported financially by U.S. AID.

The Jordanian government contributed the land for the building, and scores of American and Jordanian companies and individuals have donated cash and gifts in kind to the project. Among the major donors to date have been United Technologies, the East-West Group, the Dodge Foundation, Harry W. Fowler, F.M. Johnson, Citibank, J. International Hotels, the Jordan Cement Factories Company, Mobil Oil Corporation, Morgan Guaranty Trust Company, the U.S. Information Agency, the Central Bank of Jordan, Herman Miller, Inc., and Woodward and Dickerson.

Noting the support of hundreds of friends throughout the Middle East and the United States, Prince Ra'ad expressed deep admiration and thanks for the work of ACOR in Jordan over the years. "One of ACOR's outstanding achievements," he said, "has been to help integrate archaeology into the education of young Jordanians, and to promote our understanding of archaeology as a dynamic and interdisciplinary field of study that has many relevant applications to the problems of developing countries throughout the area."

United States Ambassador Richard Viets, who departs Amman with his wife Marina this week, noted that ACOR is a "remarkable institution" that has brought great satisfaction and pleasure to him during his three years in the country.

Dr. Jim Sauer, president of the American Schools of Oriental Research, the ACOR parent body, in turn thanked Prince Ra'ad for his role as "the dynamo" of the fund-raising effort, and Crown Prince Hassan for his valuable patronage of the fund-raising drive.

Dr. David McCreery, present director of ACOR, proposed that the remains of a Roman tower adjacent to the site of the new ACOR building be preserved and landscaped into a public park, for the enjoyment of the residents of



Prince Ra'd (centre) inspects the site of the permanent building of the American Centre of Oriental

Research following a ceremony in which he officially broke the ground at the site (Petra photo)

the Tlaa Al Ali township in the area. He hoped the presence of ACOR near the University of Jordan and the existing British and German archaeological institutes would further strengthen international co-operation in the field of Jordanian archaeology.

Dr. McCreery also expressed special thanks to Director of Antiquities Dr. Adnan Hadidi, Mr. Mohammad Asfour, Habib Associates, U.S. AID and many other individuals and institutions that have helped bring the 15-year-old dream of a permanent ACOR building to fruition.

But, as Prince Ra'ad noted, only the first phase of the work has been completed, and considerable fund-raising efforts still have to be made to raise the remaining \$1.7

million required to meet the \$3 million target. "We still have a long way to go, and we still need the support of all our friends and backers to complete the second phase of operations."

A crowd of some 200 supporters and friends attended the ground-breaking ceremony, which also included the planting of two olive trees. Also attending were several ACOR vice presidents and trustees, a handful of ACOR trustees, and many members of the archaeological community in Jordan.

Anybody interested in donating to, or assisting, the fund-raising effort should contact Dr. McCreery (814917) or Mohammad Asfour (519891).

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## Agriculture ministry to participate in seminar

AMMAN (Petra) — Ministry of Agriculture will take part in an agricultural seminar on improving the cultivation of maize and wheat scheduled to be held in Mexico on Sept. 15.

The ten-day seminar will be sponsored by the Arab Organisation for Agricultural Development (AOAD) from the Arab League.

## Future buildings to highlight Islamic architecture style

AMMAN (Petra) — A committee charged with preserving the Islamic architectural style in buildings Saturday decided to add to its members two engineers from the public sector. The committee said that the director of the department of antiquities should submit a memorandum on the number and type of buildings in the traditional Islamic architectural style in Jordan and in

addition to recommendations for improving and restoring them.

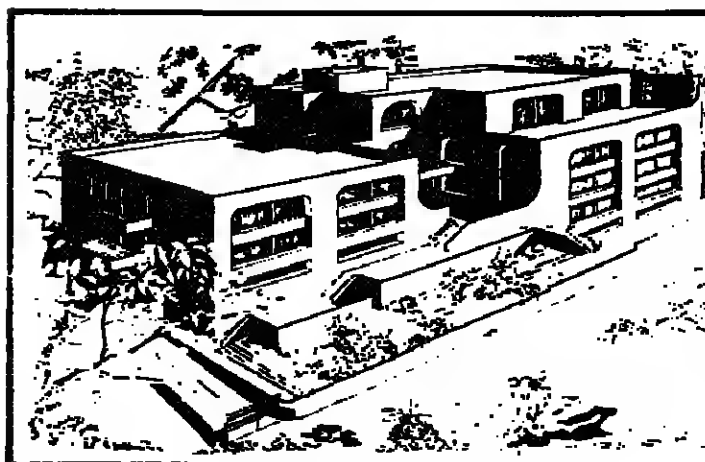
The committee, which met under the chairmanship of Minister of Public Works Rayef Nijem, aims at implementing instructions issued by Prime Minister Ahmad 'Obeidat in which he said that modern and new buildings should be constructed in a way that highlights the national Islamic heritage.



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New ACOR building perspective



# Jordan Times

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**Managing Editor:** MOHAMMAD AMAT  
**Editorial and Advertising Offices:** P.O. Box 973, Amman, Jordan  
**Telephone:** 2107 ALAMI JO  
**Telex:** 1001455 Amman Jordan  
**Subscription and advertising rates are available from the Jordan Times advertising department.**

## A far cry from '73

THE WALL Street Journal recently called on the European Community to be true to its own free-trade constitution by passing a Europe-wide law against the Arab boycott of Israel and those who trade with the Jewish state. "We suspect boycotting the boycott would not do the Europeans any harm, materially or spiritually", the newspaper said in an editorial last week, suggesting that the Arabs violate their own doctrines whenever expediency demands.

Well, if the issue of Jerusalem can be made into an electioneering game in the U.S., why can't a pro-Zionist newspaper call on Europe to ignore the Arabs, their rights and their actions, almost totally?

This is but a sign — a new sign — of how low the Arab image has sunk in the eyes of others — but mainly Europeans and Americans. The Wall Street Journal editorial apparently was inspired by the problems that have been plaguing OPEC lately: The oil glut, the falling prices, the increasing independence of the U.S. and Europe of Gulf supplies, and disagreements among the oil-producing members themselves over policy, quotas and prices. But what must have really encouraged Western governments and the press to take advantage of OPEC's latest surge in weakness is something else, albeit related to the organisation's current problems. It is the reported Saudi deal to buy 10 Boeing 747 planes for the kingdom's air force to be paid for by the sale of 30 million barrels of oil.

The story goes something like this, again according to Western press reports, Prince Sultan, the Saudi defence and aviation minister and second-in-line to the throne, wanted to buy the 10 planes urgently and asked Sheikh Ahmad Zaki Yamani, the oil minister, to increase production by 30 million barrels. Sheikh Yamani understood that the barter deal would not be acceptable to other OPEC members and was reluctant to add 30 million barrels of oil to an already saturated market. But there was no Prince Sultan would accept a compromise on this. And, hence, the present confusion in the international oil market, with its negative impact on OPEC and, consequently, the Arabs.

We are not saying that inter-Arab differences, and clashes among Third World countries, should not surface just to keep the West quiet. Arab League's, OPEC's, or any other problems in the developing world are as inevitable as fights among the Europeans over milk and butter, and they could neither be suppressed nor hidden from the watchful eyes of Western governments and the press. The difficulties being currently faced by the oil-producing countries are not the issue here. What we are really concerned about in the whole story, however, is the newly-found tendency in the West to make light of whatever Arabs do and think nowadays.

It was not enough for the Americans to themselves be hostile to Arab rights and aspirations, it seems, that some of them are now calling on the Europeans to totally ignore us. A far cry from 1973, when the West really feared Arab power and influence. Isn't it? What kind of development is this, if not worrying?

### ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

#### Al Ra'i: Mines to keep us busy

THOSE WHO planted mines in the Suez Canal and the Red Sea are interested in keeping the Arab Nation weak and preoccupied with its problems, and want to see Arab resources sapped in vain. It is clear that the mines were intended also to obstruct navigation in the waterways and keep both Egypt and North Yemen engaged in internal affairs, and at the same time presenting the two countries as incapable of ensuring safe navigation in the Red Sea and the Suez Canal. These evil ideas could be concocted only by those who have lost every sense of civilisation and are planning to involve the Middle East in another whirlpool of bloody events that could remove the Palestine problem from the list of priorities of the Arab World.

The enemies of the Arab World have seen in the return of Lebanon to stability and peace and the efforts of the PLO to re-organise its ranks and mobilise its forces as dangerous signs for them. The recent Soviet proposal for holding an international peace conference on the Middle East has caused panic among anti-Arab circles, which prompted them to plant the mines in Arab waters and so cause tension and distract the Arabs from their original issue: the Palestine issue. The criminal nature of our enemies is clear and calls for vigilance and readiness to confront all eventualities.

#### Al Dustour: Black and white boundaries

IT IS obvious that the Soviet Union is reaping the benefits of its sound policy towards the Middle East and benefiting from U.S. failures and double-standard dealings with the Arabs. Any observer of Middle East developments can clearly see what the Soviet Union has done over the past months: It has restored full diplomatic ties with Egypt, sold Kuwaiti defensive weapons, improved its relations with Iraq and announced its proposal for convening an international conference to discuss a solution for the Arab-Israeli conflict.

For its part, the U.S. has continued its biased attitude in favour of Israel, lost its credibility for its underhand dealing with the Arabs and lost the initiative for future peace mediation.

The Soviet Union supports the Arab right and the struggle of the Palestinian people to regain their usurped territory and establish an independent state. The Soviet Union is siding with right and justice, while the U.S. is supporting the aggressor and continuously providing him with tools of destruction. The Soviets are succeeding where the Americans are failing because Moscow's policies are stable and based on justice. America's blind backing for Israel has cost her all her friends in the region and above all its credibility. We hope that the U.S. will follow the example of the Soviet Union and re-consider its policies towards the Arabs for the sake of protecting her interests in this region and achieving real peace.

#### Sawt Al Shaab: Harder after the election

FOLLOWING THE Israeli election it is clear for the Arabs that the Israelis will pursue plans to expand their aggression and build more settlements in the occupied Arab lands. It is clear also that the Israelis will continue to detain Arabs, confiscate their lands and demolish their homes unhindered by a joint Arab action or deterred by Arab force. In the Golan Heights and in southern Lebanon Israel is following similar policies and is instituting agents there to carry out work and help Zionist leaders achieve their goals.

The Israelis are intent on maintaining the same policies as before towards the confrontation states: Syria, Jordan, Lebanon and Egypt, despite two abortive attempts to tear away Egypt through the Camp David agreements and Lebanon by means of a separate peace agreement. What Egypt ought to do is to demand from Israel to accept U.N. resolutions on the Middle East as a condition for returning the Egyptian ambassador to Tel Aviv. The other Arab states for their part, should find a way to end the downward trend in inter-Arab relations and build up their self-strength to ensure a united and strong front vis-a-vis Israeli policies since after the elections, these policies are expected to be extremely aggressive.

# Managing our external economy

By Fahed Fanek

THE EFFICIENT management of our external economy in the present circumstances is the real test of the economic policy of the public administration.

Enhancing economic security and stability and preventing crisis and bottlenecks is to a great extent contingent on the effectiveness and success of this side of the general economic policy practised by the state and its specialised institutions.

At the outset, let us have a general view of what went on in Jordan's external economy during 1983, as reflected in the national accounts just published by the Department of Statistics.

Revenues earned by the country in foreign currencies during 1983 totaled JD 1288.3 million, a decrease of only seven per cent in current pri-

ces. This is the first time in 10 years that foreign exchange receipts show a decline rather than the usual steady growth, but it is a small and manageable percentage.

These receipts originated from various sources. Taken in the order of their importance we find the proceeds of exports in goods and services aggregating JD 639 million, transfers of Jordanians (and Palestinians) working abroad JD 340.6 millions, external transfers to government JD 288.3 million, property and entrepreneurial income from the rest of the world (net) JD 13.8 million, and external transfers to private sector JD 6.6 million. As noticed, foreign aid was pushed back to the third place, which is a healthy development and a step forward towards self-sufficiency, the final and long term target of

Jordan.

Each of these sources reflected a shortfall over 1982 except for expatriates' transfers, which showed a substantial increase. Some pessimistic observers speculate that the increase in this item may be resulting from the final return of some expatriates bringing along with them their accumulated savings, which means — if true — that this cannot be taken as a continuous trend of growth for many years to come. We are of the opinion that believes these transfers will continue at a high level for a long time, because most Jordanians working abroad are indispensable even under recession conditions.

On the disbursements side, imports of goods and services payable in foreign exchange reached a record JD 1467.7 million in 1983 but only one

per cent over 1982.

This indicates that during 1983 we lived at a level 14 per cent beyond our means, including foreign aid and expatriate transfers. In other words, the reduction in Arab aid left 14 per cent of our requirements uncovered, an indication that Arab aid was reduced while still needed.

These imports were not only too much, relative to our reduced earnings in foreign exchange, but also a little bit more than the imports of goods and services in the previous year. It is believed that Jordan's imports have now levelled off, and no more steep increases will take place from now on.

Our receipts in foreign currencies during 1983 declined by JD 96 million and, at the same time, our expenditure in these currencies increased by JD 15.1 million, thus the small

gap, which appeared in 1982 for the first time, increased by an additional JD 111.1 million in 1983, excluding errors and omissions. It is hoped that the adjustments taking place during 1984 will reverse this trend and reduce the gap substantially of this year.

What have we done in 1983 to face the gap created by constant expenditure and less Arab aid? We borrowed from abroad. Net borrowings reached JD 170.2 million for the government and JD 17 million for the private sector, and thus a small surplus in the balance of payments for the year 1983 was achieved.

That policy can take care of the problem in the short run. It is hoped that a meaningful change is taking place in 1984 by way of balance of payments management, through integrated and coherent policies

in the fiscal, monetary, and trade policies aiming at a smooth and gradual but firm adjustment in our external economy, which proved to be flexible and manageable.

So far, the Ministry of Finance stands out as the active front that is vigorously facing up to the challenge and adopting a rational and tight policy. Monetary and commerce authorities are apparently taking advantage of this tight fiscal policy and finding that they can afford moderate expansion and rather neutral policies, which could neutralise or reverse the effects of trying to reduce the deficit in the budget by imposing higher taxes, improving collection procedures, putting a cap on the volume of recurring expenses and postponing certain capital expenditures that can wait.



Arab News

## What is behind Suez blasts?

By Kate Dourian  
 Reuter

CAIRO — The current state of mystery explosions in the Gulf of Suez and the Red Sea are the first such incidents reported since the strategic Suez Canal was swept by mines and reopened for navigation nearly a decade ago.

Underwater blasts have damaged at least eight merchant vessels since July 10, when a Soviet container ship entering the Suez reported being slightly damaged in an explosion.

With the Suez Canal bringing in close to one billion dollars of revenue in transit tolls, Egyptian officials have played down the reports, insisting the blasts were most likely caused by drifting explosives from oil rigs.

But diplomatic sources in Cairo are not so optimistic.

"For 10 years you had nothing and now suddenly you have all these explosions in a scope of a few days. This is no coincidence," one diplomat said.

Military experts believe the detonations, which have caused relatively slight damage so far, are caused by acoustic mines activated by sound-detecting devices.

There has also been speculation that anti-West elements could have dumped "home-made" mines into the sea from vessels sailing through.

An average 60 ships, tankers and container vessels sail through

the Suez Canal daily, bringing in an estimated \$4 million a day in transit fees.

The Suez Canal, opened in 1869 in the presence of Empress Eugenie of France, was closed to navigation for eight years during the Arab-Israeli wars to be reopened by the late President Anwar Sadat in June 1975 amid great pomp and ceremony.

During its closure, the 162 kilometre long canal linking the Red and Mediterranean Seas, was mined and it took eight years and the combined efforts of U.S., French, British and Soviet teams to clear the canal and its southern approaches.

For several years mine-sweepers accompanied vessels through the narrow artery to ensure their safety. Now more than nine years after they helped clear the canal, the Americans have sent in a 15-man mine-warfare team to scour the Red Sea approaches to the canal.

While the first explosions were reported in an area about 25 nautical miles south of the canal, the latest blasts have taken place near the Bab El Mandeb Strait linking the Red Sea and the Indian Ocean.

This has given credence to a claim last week by a caller purporting to speak for a group calling itself the "Jihad Organisation" who told news agencies in London his group had planted 190 mines in the Gulf of Suez and

Bab El Mandeb.

The claim preceded the first reported explosions in the southern tip of the Red Sea which came Thursday when a Greek and a Turkish ship were slightly damaged.

The blasts have coincided with the beginning of the Haj (Islamic Pilgrimage) season when hundreds of thousands of Muslims travel to Mecca, Saudi Arabia, by air, land and sea.

The Saudi Port of Jeddah lies on the eastern flanks of the Red Sea and many pilgrims from Asia and states around the Red Sea such as Egypt, Sudan and Somalia travel by sea.

The Egyptian Navy, which is in charge of the canal's security, has intensified its patrols and residents in the port of Ismailia have seen Egyptian warplanes swooping low over the canal zone in recent days.

Excavated from desert sand by French engineer Ferdinand De Lesseps — later dubbed the "father of the canal" — the waterway is the West's shortcut to the Gulf oilfields and the Far East, saving 5,000 nautical miles in the route between Europe and Asia.

But after the canal's closure following the 1967 Arab-Israeli war, oil companies started building giant tankers, big enough to show a profit carrying crude around the southern tip of Africa and too big for the canal.

The volume of oil passing thr-

ough the canal, which can take 40 per cent of the world's tankers, has gone down considerably.

The war between Iran and Iraq has also affected tonnage through the waterway and Suez Canal Authority Chairman Mohamed Ezzat Adel recently said tonnage picked up in June after falling 7.6 per cent in May compared to the previous years figures.

June tonnage was 1.5 per cent up on 1983's monthly average. There now are plans to widen the canal by 50 metres under a second stage of an expansion scheme due for completion in 1987.

The late Egyptian President Gamal Abdul Nasser nationalised the Suez Canal Company in July 1956 in retaliation for the West's withdrawal of a promised loan to finance the cost of the Aswan Dam on the Nile.

In November 1956, British and French forces invaded the canal zone a few days after Israel attacked Egypt. The canal was blocked by Egyptian forces, who sank a large number of vessels laden with concrete.

The Middle Eastern war of June 1967 again resulted in the closure of the canal. Israel fortified its Bar-Lev Line on the waterway's eastern bank.

But in 1973, Egyptian forces crossed the canal and destroyed the Israeli fortifications, paving the way for the re-opening of the waterway in 1975.

## Boat people suffer piracy, reluctance

By Peter Griffiths  
 Reuter

GENEVA — The number of Vietnamese risking long voyages in leaky boats to escape their country has dwindled, but United Nations officials say the perils for those who still make the attempt have increased.

These days almost half the boat people who make a landfall report they have been attacked at least once by pirates off the Thai coast. The cruelty of the attacks, by men who routinely rob, rape, abduct and murder their victims, has increased, the officials say.

Even if the boat people in their frail, overcrowded vessels successfully run the gauntlet of pirates, they now have to contend with what one U.N. refugee official described as "criminal negligence" by ships' captains who flout traditional rules of seafaring morality.

This was highlighted in the latest of a series of harrowing accounts of boat people reported by the office of the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR).

A group of 84 left Vietnam on a small motorised fishing boat early last month. They apparently escaped the attention of pirates but their luck was short-lived.

Soon their engine broke down and they drifted helplessly for a month across one of the world's busiest shipping lanes towards the Philippines.

When they reached Santa Cruz in northern Philippines two days later, only 16 were still alive. The other 68 men, women and children had perished of thirst and hunger. As they died, those still alive pushed their corpses overboard.

UNHCR said some 40 big merchant ships sailed close by the tiny fishing boat ignoring distress signals and appeals for help.

It was understandable, if inexcusable, that vessels shied away from picking up boat people in difficulties because of the problems of finding a port willing to let them land, U.N. officials said. But not to stop and offer help in the form of water and food was as inhumane as it was reprehensible.

Generally the number of ref-

ugees is declining, partly because the few boats remaining in Vietnam are either well guarded or too small or decrepit for even desperate boat people to contemplate an ocean voyage.

Recent good sailing weather has increased the number of arrivals, however. There were 4,555 in May, up from an average of 1,500 in earlier months this year.

Vietnamese emigrating legally under an "orderly departure" scheme agreed with Hanoi totalled 2,594 in May. Total arrivals last year dropped to 28,055 throughout Asia from a 1979 peak of 202,158.

UNHCR officials talk of arrivals, not departures. They have no firm estimates for the number of refugee boats that never reach the shore of whose passengers drown or are murdered by pirates.

Totting up refugee accounts, UNHCR puts the number of people killed by pirates since it began compiling data in 1982 at some 1,800. More than 2,300 women and girls have been raped, many repeatedly, and 850 who were abducted remain missing.

The UNHCR last month gave the Thai government 2.1 million dollars to help it fight the pirates. But an anti-piracy campaign, now in its third year, appears to have had little effect in stemming the attacks, diplomatic sources said.

Diplomats say that donors to the scheme, 12 Western countries and Japan, are still uncertain about Thai determination to combat pirates.

Last month four pirates were sentenced to jail in Thailand in a trial coinciding with a visit by Pope John Paul to Thai refugee camps and a visit to Washington by the Thai prime minister, Genral Prem Tinsulanonda.

But earlier, diplomats said, there had been well-documented reports of Thai authorities towing refugee boats from Vietnam back out to sea.

In Bangkok, Thai officials deny they are not pursuing pirates vigorously. They say Thailand has insufficient resources to stop all pirates operating in the Gulf of Thailand, which covers more than 300,000 square kilometres, but say their efforts have contributed to the decline in piracy.

## LETTERS

### Religious sentiments exploited

To the Editor:

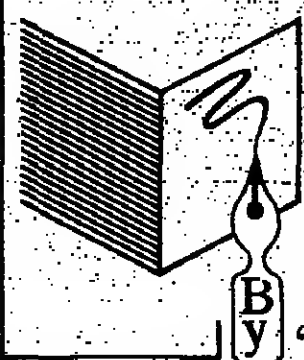
1. During the course of the past several months, your esteemed paper focussed attention on the various aspects of the political agitation in the Indian state of Punjab. I feel that diverse views, implicit and explicit, pro-government and anti-government, regarding the Punjab crisis have been sufficiently highlighted through the columns of Jordan Times. If my article has helped further to project the government view regarding the same problem as crystallised in the government "White Paper", it has more than served its purpose.

2. As such my anonymous friend has brought in no new facts to help me or anyone else to improve the research on the particular problem. The suggestion that one should have sought in-depth information as to what was the motivation of the group of people and terrorists, does not help one either. For, no empirical endeavour can ever unlock hidden motivations behind socio-political activities of individuals and groups. It is facile to assume either Governments are empowered to observe socio-political activities and behaviours of all citizens whether or not they conform to established laws and customs, of the land. Law breakers cannot always easily escape prosecution, leading good intentions and motivations.

3. My anonymous friend has thrown up many rhetorical questions, which, I strongly feel, are designed to play to the gallery. 4. Lastly, as opposed to the view of my anonymous friend, my view is that some of the frustrated leaders of Punjab exploited the religious sentiments of the peace-loving Sikh community and used it as a potent political variable to achieve their sectarian aims which the government felt should be flouted.

Dr. John Muttiah,  
 Amman.





## AMMAN NOTEBOOK

By 'Inad Khairallah

THE OTHER DAY I dropped in to see a friend for a little chat about the camera he borrowed from me some four months ago only to find him having a squabble with his wife. Not that it was anything new for them, what with his drinking habits and appreciative eye for nice-looking lasses. But the intensity of the quarrel that day was so high that I thought it was primarily and secondarily aimed at getting rid of me from their house, given my well-known distaste in lingering around when the possibility of flying objects, such as spoons, ashtrays, cooking pots and the like landing on me was pretty strong.

But it turned out that I was wrong, for as I turned on my heels muttering some excuse

under my breath, my friend turned to me and said: "Look, what is 800 fils? I am not willing to walk one kilometre to collect 800 fils." I wanted to tell him I had no desire for any part of the 800 fils nor the one kilometre walk, but then I realised there was something seriously wrong in saying so because I had no idea what he was talking about.

It seemed that I was missing something, I told him. He was about to reply when his wife chimed in: "What is missing is the 800 fils that the supermarket man gyped us for. I am sure he does it every day with us." The mystery was deepening, I thought, and could not make up my mind whether to flee the scene or take my chances with the flying objects.

But fleeing would not have helped me to locate my camera, so I decided to plunge in. I suggested that we all sit down and sort it out in a civilised way. The couple, glaring at each other and giving the impression that each would go for the other's throat at the first given opportunity, sat down and the story was slowly unfolded.

It seemed that their quarrel was over a shopping bill for goods they bought at a supermarket. The wife said that while the total they paid at the supermarket was five dinars and 900 fils, the actual bill was only for five dinars and 100 fils. I asked how come she was so sure. She showed me the cash register sales slip which said the total was five dinars and 900 fils, but an item-by-item calculation on an adding machine proved that the total should be 800 fils less.

"Yes, I agree," said the husband, "maybe the cash register is wrong. But I am not going back there and ask for the 800 fils refund." His wife was furious. "Why can't you go? Do you think money falls from the skies to throw away 800 fils? Again, it is a matter of principle. Why should we allow

the supermarket to make fools of us?"

There we go again, I thought, and hastened to make peace. It seemed that the wife was right, I told my friend. From my experience I had reached the conclusion that not all supermarkets in town were honest, I told him.

My friend looked suspicious. He asked why I thought that not all supermarkets were honest. Well, for one thing, my friend's experience was not a solitary one, I told him. "Do you mean to tell me they cheat you?" he asked. I said I did not know about the cheating part, but sure some of the cash registers tend to act funny sometimes.

"Can you explain this?" he snatched the bill from his wife and thrust it at me. I looked at it and everything was all right, other than the "mistake" in the total. I knew what was happening, so I told them.

Almost every model of cash registers is provided with a separate switch for controlling the printing of the sales slips. I told him. In my friend's case it would have been very easy for the cashier to have switched the printing off when he made an additional entry of 800 fils

and switch it again to proceed normally, I told him. Even if a person, like his wife, did compare the prices entered in the slip and of the items bought, it was difficult to note the difference, I told him, unless the total was crosschecked.

My friend was indignant. "Do you seriously believe it is possible?" He rose to his full five feet three inches. I hastily added it was only a probability and I was not accusing any one.

"Now I know why the supermarket man does not care to charge me any 100 fils or 150 fils above a round figure," the wife said, sounding as if she had just made a discovery. We turned to her. "And he is so gracious about it," she continued.

Did she usually go to a supermarket for vegetables, I asked. Well, if she did, it would pay to be careful, I said. "Why?" she asked me. Some of the supermarkets which sell vegetables cheat on weights, I told her. "They just make a pretense of weighing the vegetable on the balance, add couple of hundred grammes or so, shout the weight aloud and ring it in the cash register."

An eyewitness once told me of an incident when a customer's little son broke the

cover of a recorded cassette, the supermarket owner was very gracious about it and waived aside the lady's offer to pay the cost. "What was wrong with that?" My friend asked. Nothing, I told him, other than that the moment the cassette fell down, the supermarket owner made an entry of JD 1 in the register and there was no sales slip. Add to that the fact that broken cassettes are automatically replaced by the dealer, I told them.

My friend did not believe me. He demanded to know who the eyewitness was. I said it was a friend of mine who was a wholesale salesman for food stuffs, and who knew the inside and outside of the supermarket trade, mainly through his observation from a vantage point near the cash register where he happened to be, in the course of his sales talks with the supermarket owner.

My friend looked disturbed. "What is the world coming into?" You can't trust your own grocer," he wailed. I told him it was people like him to be blamed for being careless not to check their money and the sales slips.

"Of course," his wife said, "heavens know how much

money we have lost through his foolishness." She turned to her husband.

"Now you know we've been cheated. Are you going to get that 800 fils back or not?" she demanded. My friend looked at me. I shrugged. "Okay, I will go and get it, and give the supermarket owner a piece of my mind," he said. "Are you coming with me?"

Before I could answer, his wife suggested it would be a good idea to use my car to return their stock of empty beer bottles. "I am sure we've more than a 100," she said, "and that should get us at least eight dinars, at 80 fils a bottle."

"Who said you would get an 80 fils refund per bottle?" I asked her. "Of course, that is what we paid," she said. It did not mean that they would get that much back, I pointed out, they would be lucky to get 60 fils each.

"That is outrageous," she was angry. "Everytime we buy we pay 80 fils deposit for every bottle of beer if we don't have empties. How come they will return only 60 fils?" she asked me. I said I did not know, but that was how the arithmetics worked out at most of the supermarkets. Of course if they

wanted to get beer in exchange, they might get 80 fils, I added.

"Are there no regulations to protect us from this kind of thievery?" She asked. I said I did not know, but would try to find out and it would be a good idea to keep her "more than a 100" empty bottles with herself until then.

My friend looked at me suspiciously, as if trying to say it was a last-minute ploy I invented to squirm out of having to take their bottles to the supermarket. I kept a very straight innocent face, and he had to be contented with that.

I could sense that his wife also wanted to say something, but then I was up on my feet and saying goodbye. I was out of their door in a hurry and the next thing I knew I was running down the stairs and panting at the door of my car. I got in fast, started the car and was doing 60 before my friend could get down the stairs.

I thanked my stars for getting myself out of the situation, but a second thought made me change my mind so fast, and that was the sad reminder that I was nowhere near the retrieval of my camera which was the prime intention of my "social" visit to my friend.

## World Food Programme approves \$558m aid

ROME — Food aid totalling \$558 million was approved this early June in Rome by the governing body of the World Food Programme (WFP), the Committee on Food Aid Policies and Programmes (CFA), to support 34 projects for social and economic development in 22 countries. Of the total, 17 were new projects and 17 expansions of on-going projects. In terms of actual food it will mean over one million metric tons and this is the highest commitment ever made by the committee at a single session, most of it going to least developed and/or

low-income food deficit countries. Food sent by WFP, the food aid arm of the United Nations system, is used as part payment of workers' wages, as an incentive to volunteers and for meeting the nutritional needs of vulnerable groups, especially mothers and children, through feeding programmes.

Of the projects just approved, 24 are to boost agricultural and rural development in Angola (two projects), Bangladesh, China (seven projects), Comoro Islands, Cuba, El Salvador, Ghana (four projects), Guatemala, Guinea

Bissau, Honduras, Niger, Senegal, People's Democratic Republic of Yemen (two projects).

The remaining 10 projects are for feeding of vulnerable groups and in primary schools (Bangladesh, Botswana, Brazil, Chad, Cyprus, Jamaica, Jordan, Nepal, Pakistan and Syria).

The approved projects included \$11.4 million for Ghana, aimed at rehabilitation of the transport infrastructure of the country. WFP designed the project in close collaboration with the World Bank which is financing part of the costs of port and railway rehabilitation.

Among the other 33 projects the largest were: Brazil: \$38.9 million for primary school feeding in the depressed areas of the north-eastern region.

Cuba: \$35.1 million for dairy development.

Syrian Arab Republic: \$30.1 million for women's training schemes, vulnerable groups and primary schools.

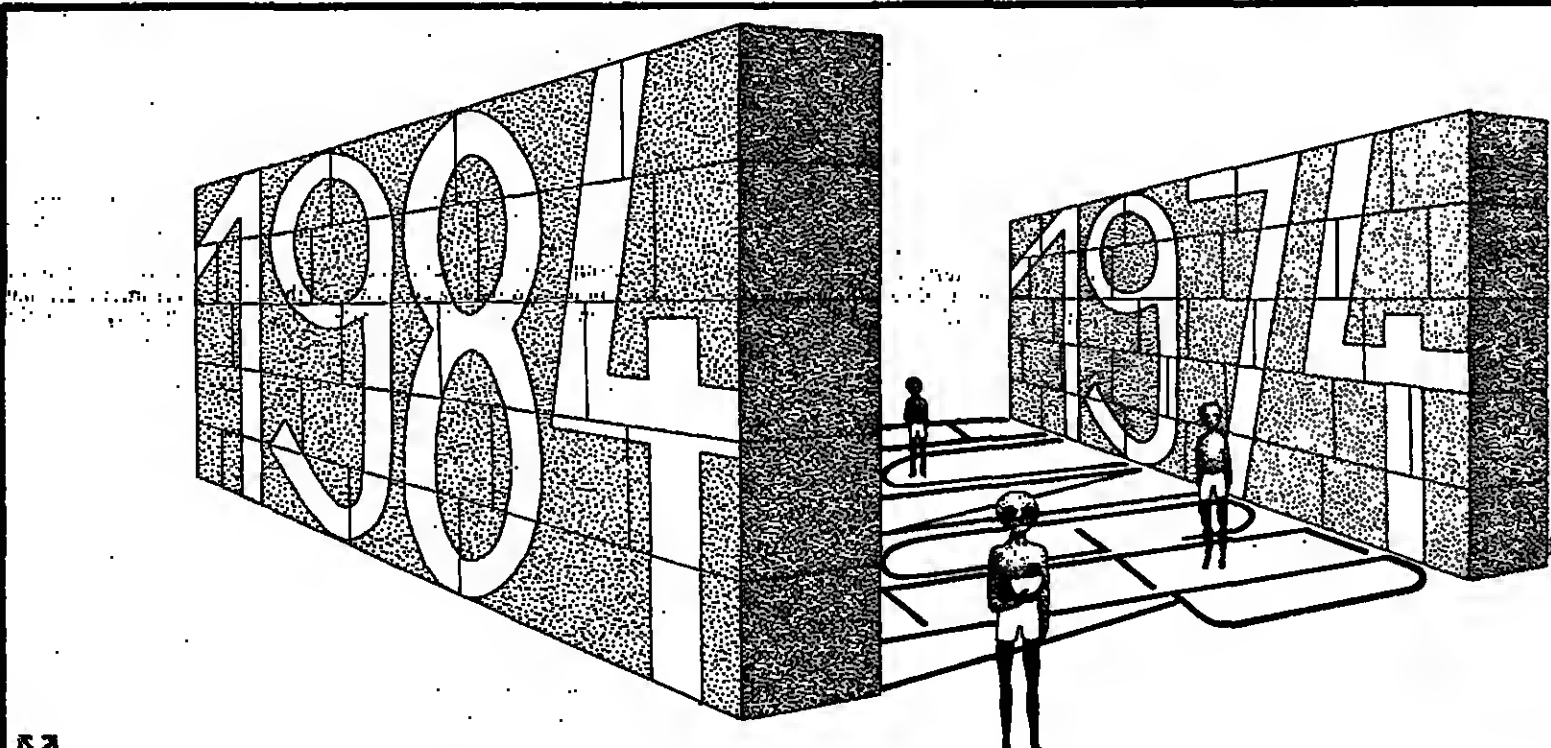
Chad: \$21 million for the rehabilitation of vulnerable groups. Ghana: \$41.5 million for land and water development works and

\$59.3 million for vulnerable groups.

Pakistan: \$33 million for supplementary feeding of mothers and preschool children.

For China the committee approved seven projects for a total cost to WFP of \$81.3 million in support of agricultural and fisheries development.

In addition, the committee noted that the executive director, on his own delegated authority, had approved 17 projects of up to \$1.5 million in food value for 13 countries. — WFP release.



"Within a decade, no child will go to bed hungry"

— closing statement of the World Food Conference in 1974.

"Tonight, more children will go to bed hungry than on the night those words were spoken"

— Unicef report, The State of the World's Children, 1984.

© compass news features

## Tale of imprisonment told

By Diane Freeman

MIKE MANSOUR had been in his native Palestinian village of Deir Dibwan in the Israeli-occupied West Bank for a month before the trouble started.

He was standing outside his father-in-law's home on April 2 when he was arrested and thrown into an Israeli prison.

"I was waiting for dinner and I stepped outside," the 44-year-old Albuquerque, N.M., jeweler said.

Two Israeli officers approached him and told him to get into their vehicle. "They had guns so I didn't argue with them," Mansour said.

The Palestinian-American was taken to a prison where "they put a bag over my head, handcuffed me and beat me," he said. "They made me stand all night."

### Prison beatings

"I would kneel and stand, and if I complained, they beat me up," he said.

After 22 days in captivity, Mansour was released from prison in Ramallah after intervention from the U.S. Consulate in Jerusalem and pressure from his New Mexico congressman.

Mansour, a reserve sheriff's deputy in Albuquerque who has raised funds for Palestinian and Lebanese children, was in Houston recently speaking to members of the American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee about his ordeal.

He said he believes he was arrested because the Israelis "want to discourage people from coming to the West Bank. They want to put fear in the hearts of Palestinians and Arabs."

### 'Paranoid' captors

"I think they were very paranoid and didn't know what they were getting into with me," he said.

Mansour, who has a heart condition, said he was denied his regular medication by the Israeli jail-



Mansour discusses arrest by Israelis

ers. On the 17th day of his captivity, he had a heart attack in the prison and was left untreated, he said.

"I was left for five hours with a heart attack," he said.

Later, he did receive medical attention and his health is fine now.

In prison, Israeli officials "asked me the names of Palestinian children in Albuquerque and in my mother's village," Mansour said.

"They promised to release him if he would co-operate by providing information about those people," he said.

Mansour refused and "they beat me again," he said.

Later, after his family garnered U.S. political pressure to demand his freedom, Mansour was released.

Mansour had not been to his homeland for 22 years when he made the trip last spring — ADC report.

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## Retton vaults to Olympic glory

LOS ANGELES (R) — Mary Lou Retton donned the golden crown of Olympic princess Friday night when she vaulted to perfection under incredible pressure to win the women's individual overall gymnastics title.

The 16-year-old American schoolgirl twisted and spun through the air in her final event to scoop America's first medal in the competition after Romania's World Champion Ecaterina Szabo had set what looked an impossible target.

Szabo had scored 10 on the beam and 9.95 on vault to overhaul the slender lead Retton carried into the final.

Then the 17-year-old world floor champion finished her programme with a 9.90 on the asymmetric bars and 9.95 on the beam to tie for gold or 10 to win outright.

The American rose to the challenge. With the arena hushed she galloped down the runway, bounced off the springboard — and scored 10 on her first attempt.

With the crowd still cheering her triumph, Retton flew high over the apparatus a second time for another perfect mark. She needed not have bothered. Once was enough to reach her winning total of 79.175 points.

Szabo, who seemed set to sweep to her second gold of the games following Romania's team triumph two days ago, was left with a silver on 79.125. Teammate Simona Pauca took the bronze on 78.675.

It was a remarkable performance from the powerful Retton who is coached by Romanian Bela Karolyi, former coach to 1976 Olympic Champion Nadia Comaneci. The West Virginia girl's total was just 0.1 points behind Comaneci's score eight years ago.

Retton had looked out of contention after scoring only 9.85 on the asymmetric bars and 9.8 on the beam — the Achilles heel of all the Americans.

Szabo opened her campaign with a brilliant beam display. At one point she strung together four successive back flips to travel the length of the narrow apparatus without wavering.

She landed feet together after a complex twisting dismount. The crowd knew 10 was the only possible reward.

Other tens were scored by American Julianne McNamara and China's Ma Yanhong on asymmetric bars and Retton on floor.

It was Retton's charming floor routine which put her back on course for gold.

Leaping round the mat she rotated three times in the air to wrap up her opening combination and show Szabo she still had something left to give.

The perfect mark she received left her just 0.05 behind the Romanian with one discipline left.

Szabo went onto the asymmetric bars knowing she needed to score well. But her routine suffered when she lost control of a remarkable twisting manoeuvre along the lower bar and she received 9.90.

In most cases it would have been enough. But the hungry American was desperate for gold. It was Retton's second medal of the games. She was in the American team that won the silver two days ago.

Retton said: "This makes it all worth it. The good times the bad times. I can't express it."

She added she knew she needed a big score in the vault. "I knew I had to get a ten. I work better under pressure. I could tell by the run I was going to stick it. But I didn't cry. I was too happy to cry."

Pauca, 15, also turned in a remarkable performance to take bronze after starting the final in seventh place.

### Prost in pole spot in German race

HOCKENHEIM, West Germany (R) — World Championship leader Alain Prost snatched pole position for Sunday's West German Formula One Grand Prix just minutes before the end of Saturday's final practice session at Hockenheim.

Italian Elio de Angelis, who set Friday's fastest time in his Lotus, immediately went out on the track

to try regain the pole spot but could not catch the Frenchman, who clocked a scorching one minute 47.012 seconds for an average speed of 228.7 kph.

"I am so frustrated, the car was perfect. All I needed was a clear lap," de Angelis said after being held up by the Brabham of Italy's Teo Fagioli.



Mary Lou Retton jumps in ecstasy after winning the Olympic individual gymnastics title Friday.

## Mexico, West Germany strike early athletics gold

LOS ANGELES (R) — Diminutive Mexican Ernesto Canto and West German shot-putter Claudia Losch claimed the first Olympic athletics gold medals Friday night.

America's effervescent Carl Lewis prepared to scoop his first title Saturday.

Canto added the Olympic 20 km walk title to the World Championship crown he won in Helsinki last year.

Undeterred by the fierce strength-sapping heat, the little 24-year-old Mexican raced home ahead of teammate Raul Gonzalez and defending champion Maurizio Damilano of Italy in the fastest time recorded in the Olympics.

His time of one hour 23 minutes 13 seconds was 23 seconds quicker than the mark Damilano set in Moscow in 1980. It assuaged the bitter Mexican memory of that day four years ago when defending champion Daniel Bautista was disqualified less than 2.5 kms from the end.

"I felt tremendous emotion as I came into the coliseum. It was a feeling which will remain with me for the rest of my life," Canto said.

"I knew that Raul Gonzalez was right behind and that this was a chance I couldn't let pass. It was now or never," Canto was a picture of exuberance as he donned an ornate Sombrero and celebrated his triumph on a lap of honour with Gonzalez.

Losch was equally delighted with her golden triumph, eked out on her sixth and final heave of 20.48 metres. It carried her to victory over Romania's Mihaela Loghin by the narrowest margin of one centimetre.

The absence of Soviet-bloc athletes could be felt particularly in the women's events. But nobody in the sun-drenched coliseum could feel sold short by an array of glittering performances in the men's track events.

Leading the star-studded parade were Lewis and fellow American Edwin Moses, who extended his winning streak to 103 races when he qualified for the 400 metres hurdles semifinals with the fastest heat time of 49.33 seconds.

Lewis embarked on his quest for four gold medals with two convincing outings in the 100 metres. His spring-heeled 10.04-second clocking in the second heat confirmed him as the fastest man in the field after fellow American Sam Graddy had threatened to upstage him.

The coliseum crowd will be astonished if Lewis, triple world champion in Helsinki, fails to win the final. It will be his first step of a bid to match the quartet of sprint and long jump titles achieved by fellow-American Jesse Owens in Berlin in 1936.

### Australian conquers Gross

LOS ANGELES (R) — "They said it took four Americans to stop Michael Gross in the relay, but we only needed one good Aussie."

That shout, by breaststroke medalist Peter Evans, summed up the Australian swimming camp's joy after unknown Jon Sieben, the Brisbane 'Pocket Rocket', sprang the upset of the Olympic Games.

He shattered West German superstar Gross, grabbing his world record and the 200 metres butterfly gold medal Friday.

Sieben, 17, was ranked only 26th in the world last year. He became the latest Australian prodigy to jump into the limelight at the games — and he loved every second of it.

"At the moment, I feel great,

like Gross is supposed to be. It's great to be Aussie," Sieben said as he opened his first press conference after winning his biggest victory in the event dubbed 'the man's race'.

Gross came to Los Angeles holding two world records. He added another when he won the 100 metres butterfly on Monday.

Everyone in the swimming world thought the giant from Frankfurt was certain to win his third Olympic gold in the 200 fly. Sieben was the real unknown of the seven survivors who lined up for the final hoping for nothing more than the silver against the man called 'the albatross'.

"I always thought I had it in me to come down to that time, but not tonight," the youngster said.



## Oweidat contacts Olympians

By Mohammad Jamil Abdel Kader

LOS ANGELES — Minister of Culture and Youth Abdullah Oweidat called the Olympic village here several times to convey to the national Jordanian team greetings from His Majesty King Hussein and enquire after the affairs of the team members. The team has expressed deep satisfaction and pleasure for the King's attention and care that helped to raise everybody's morale.

In the Olympic events Mohammad Al Jubur did well in target shooting from three positions in the face of heavy competition from the best world marksmen and came 36th out of 51 participants. His scores were as follows: 392-400 lying down 357-400 standing 373-400 leaning.

Another Jordanian competitor Husam Fleib was placed 48th in the group. His scores were as follows: 381, 339 and 375 out of possible 400 points.

A third competitor Khairi Omar will participate in clay pigeon shooting Saturday and Sunday.

In fencing, Aiman Jumel'aa did not qualify in the first round as he faced the world renowned Italian fencer Borila Andrea who beat Aiman 5-0. The Italian won by beating the other competitors of the group which included fencers from Argentina, France, Lebanon and Japan. Ra'ida Bader will take part in the 1,500 metre track and field race on August 6th and Basel Kilani in the 5,000-metre race.

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### Jordan Tennis Open set for Aug. 16

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Jordan Tennis Federation announced that the annual Jordan Tennis Open tournament will commence on Aug. 16.

Tennis-players of all nationalities wishing to participate will have to register their names with Mr. Issaq Jarallah, Secretary-General of the Federation. Registration will end on August 7th.

### RESULTS OF HORSE RACES FRIDAY AUG. 3, 1984

\*\*\*\*\*

#### FIRST RACE:

For beginners  
Distance: 1,000 metres  
Time: 1 minute 17 seconds

1ST: HORSE Zahrah  
2ND: Ellafieh  
3RD: M. Tarik

OWNER Mohammad Najy  
Ali Mohammad  
Mohammad A. El-Naby

#### SECOND RACE:

For beginners  
Distance: 1,000 metres  
Time: 1 minute 16 seconds

1ST: HORSE El-Hamdaneh  
2ND: Jarrah  
3RD: D. El-Mshakar

OWNER Awadh A. Ezabin  
Khalid N. Elfaiez  
Talab A. El-Kadir

#### THIRD RACE:

For third class horses  
Distance: 1,600 metres  
Time: 1 minute 55 seconds

1ST: HORSE Tair El Abdabil  
2ND: Apollo  
3RD: Rabadan

OWNER H.H. Late Sharif  
Nasir Binjamil Stable  
Bahjat Fanous  
Nimir El-Hmoud

#### FOURTH RACE:

For first and second class horses  
Distance: 1,600 metres  
Time: 1 minute 57 seconds

1ST: HORSE Dahb El-Aswad  
2ND: Wisam  
3RD: B. El-Reeh

OWNER Ghalib Haddadin  
A. El-Latif El-Hadid  
Samy Haddadin

#### FIFTH RACE:

Iraqi Racing Club Cup, for beginners  
Distance: 1,000 metres  
Time: 1 minute 8 seconds

1ST: HORSE Ellahik  
2ND: Kas El-Moulook  
3RD: Ibin El-Reeh

OWNER Trad Dahham El-Faiz  
Falsal Awad El-Faiz  
Nimir El-Hmoud

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(Colour)

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Cinema  
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Thursdays and Saturdays: 10:30 p.m.

Cinema  
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Tel: 23171

**THE NUMBER**  
(Colour)

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**OPERA**  
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(Colour)

Performances: 12-3 - 5:30-8

Cinema  
**RAGHADAN**  
Tel: 22198

**ANDHAA KANOON**  
(Colour)

"Indian Film"

Performances: 12-3 - 5:30-8







## Rescue workers clear debris as death toll in Madras reaches 32

MADRAS, India (AP) — Rescue workers combed through debris Saturday at the Madras International Airport in southern India in search of more victims of a bomb blast that killed at least 32 people.

Officials speculated privately that the bomb had been planted in a suitcase by Tamil separatists who support the cause of Tamil extremists fighting for an independent state in Sri Lanka.

They said the bomb was intended to explode either during a flight to Colombo or at the Sri Lanka Airport. Prime Minister Indira Gandhi called the bombing "mindless" and joined Sri Lankan President Junius Jayewardene in calling for a halt to terrorism.

An Indian political group linked with Sri Lanka's Tamil separatist movement on Friday charged that the bomb blast was "the handiwork of international terrorists of the United States and Israel in collusion with the Sri Lanka government."

But the group, the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam, did not give proof for the charge, made in a press statement in Madras.

Federal officials who flew to this

port city were investigating why the airport building was not evacuated late Thursday night despite an anonymous telephone call warning airport officials of a hidden bomb.

The explosion ripped apart the airport terminal, collapsing the ceiling of the arrival lounge.

At least 32 people have died and 8 others were listed in critical condition, airport officials said.

Ten bomb experts, including six from the Indian army, were helping the Madras City Police investigate the blast and determine the type of the bomb.

Before the blast, a man called the airport and told officials about a bomb-laden suitcase bound for Sri Lanka. Officials reportedly assumed it was a hoax, and made no effort to evacuate about 50 passengers waiting for an early morning flight to Abu Dhabi.

"This tragedy could have been avoided but for the carelessness of

the airport authorities," said a police officer who requested anonymity. "It is clearly a case of official negligence."

A high-level government team, headed by Civil Aviation Minister Khurshid Alam Khan, is in Madras to investigate airport authorities' handling of the incident.

Airport officials said a Tamil, identified only as Kathiresan, left a dark brown suitcase in the departure lounge after being issued a boarding pass for Air Lanka flight 122. It is not known whether he boarded the flight or slipped out of the airport, officials said.

The suitcase later was taken to the customs area, where it exploded about 11 p.m. (1730 GMT), nearly three hours after the departure of the Air Lanka flight.

The Madras Airport remained closed to international flights Saturday, workers were still clearing rubble which scattered as far away as the runway.

Airport officials said the bomb blast caused such widespread damage that parts of the airport would have to be rebuilt.

Colombo tightens security

COLOMBO (R) — Sri Lankan

authorities introduced rigid new security measures at Colombo Airport Saturday following the bomb blast in Madras believed here to have been aimed at two Sri Lankan airliners.

Sri Lankan Defence Ministry sources Saturday described the explosion as part of a plan by separatist Tamil guerrillas to blow up two Air Lanka jets.

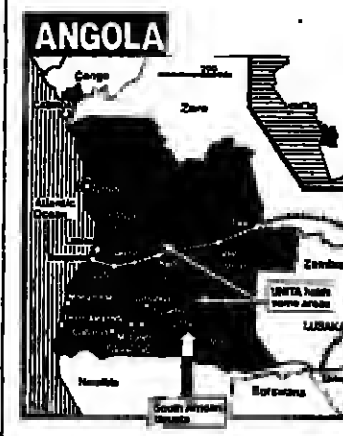
They said the explosives were in two suitcases tagged Madras-Colombo-Paris and Madras-Colombo-London and checked in at the Air Lanka counter at Madras on Thursday.

But the cases were not carried to Colombo by the airline because no passenger had claimed them.

The sources said that if the cases had been flown to Colombo they would have been put on two Air Lanka planes to London and Paris.

Judging from the time of the blast, the planes would have been blown up on the ground at Colombo, the sources added.

Brig. S.C. Ranatunga, senior executive director of Sri Lanka's Aviation Services, told reporters of new security measures to be enforced from Saturday at Colombo Airport.



## Angola ready for 'serious talks'

LISBON (AP) — The Angolan government is open to serious negotiations with South Africa and the United States toward a lasting settlement for South-West Africa and other southern African conflicts, Deputy Foreign Minister Venancio de Moura said Friday.

In a report monitored here, the official news agency ANGOP quoted Mr. De Moura as calling on both those countries to engage themselves more seriously in seeking peace in the region.

Mr. De Moura said Angola urgently wished to see an end to the hostilities between South African troops and black nationalist guerrillas fighting for the independence of South-West Africa (Namibia).

He said a cease-fire in Namibia would constitute an important step toward implementation of a United Nations resolution calling for a South African withdrawal leading to independence, the agency reported.

Mr. De Moura added that the failure of talks between South Africa and leaders of the South-West African Peoples Organisation in Cape Verde last week was due to the inflexibility of South Africa.

## Washington seeks ties with East bloc

WASHINGTON — The partial lifting of U.S. economic sanctions against Poland is part of a broader strategy to increase direct ties with Warsaw Pact nations while bypassing Moscow, American officials say.

One key part of this effort, they told reporters, is a campaign the administration has started to present directly to the Soviet Union's East European allies the U.S. side of the arms control debate.

The officials, who spoke on condition they not be identified, believe the campaign is paying off.

One official said the campaign was intended as a counterweight to the receptive audience that Moscow's point of view has sometimes found among U.S. allies in Western Europe.

"We face a real opportunity in all of East Europe, not just Poland," he said.

The official added that Washington hoped to increase cultural, diplomatic and economic ties with Eastern Europe.

Referring to the effort to brief governments there independently on the U.S. arms control position, the official said many welcomed the information because it appeared that "Moscow does not keep these governments well-informed."

He said some Warsaw Pact nations have signalled their distance from the Soviet Union on the issue of arms control because "they, more than Moscow, feel that an increased arms race could hurt their economies."

Czechoslovakia and East Germany are believed to have privately voiced some disagreement with Moscow over the installation of additional Soviet missiles in Eastern Europe in retaliation for U.S. missile deployments in Western Europe.

The White House Friday announced the lifting of bans on scientific exchanges with Poland and on flights by the Polish Air Line Lot to the United States.

## Mondale, Ferraro review strategy after Lance quits

NORTH OAKS, Minnesota (AP)

Democratic Presidential candidate Walter Mondale and his running mate Geraldine Ferraro were reviewing strategy after the embarrassing departure of Bert Lance as general chairman of their campaign 19 days after he took the job.

The resignation Thursday of Mr. Lance — whose appointment was supposed to help the ticket in the south — came after Mr. Mondale and Ms. Ferraro had completed a southern campaign swing earlier in the day.

Mr. Mondale and Ms. Ferraro were meeting Friday at Mr. Mondale's suburban Minneapolis home before she returned to New York for the weekend.

Mr. Mondale had issued a statement Thursday night saying he regretfully was accepting the resignation of his "friend and

adviser," Mr. Lance, who was forced to step down as former President Jimmy Carter's budget director amid allegations of irregularities in his private banking business in Georgia.

"I have become a major focus of the campaign, through the efforts of different people raising once again old charges which have been fully resolved through our system established by the constitution of the United States," Mr. Lance said in his resignation letter to Mr. Mondale.

## Action Directe responsible for space centre bomb

PARIS (R) — The banned anarchist group Action Directe Friday claimed responsibility for its fourth bomb attack in less than a month, after an explosion Wednesday night wrecked the headquarters of the European Space Agency (ESA).

The blast, which slightly injured seven people, occurred less than 48 hours before ESA was due to launch its new Ariane Three rocket carrying two communications satellites from its base in French Guiana.

Action Directe, outlawed by the Socialist government in 1982, told a news agency in a telephone call that it carried out the attack and a message scrawled in red paint on the outside of the ESA building read: "War Against War, A.D.", read: "War Against War, A.D."

Government spokesman Roland Dumas said the attack was a protest against a European and French enterprise, which was competing against American industry, adding: "The paradox of this situation is that it aids American industry and what's the use of that?"

If the launch of Ariane Three goes ahead as planned, ESA hopes to secure a bigger share of the commercial space market previously dominated by the United States.

Action Directe broke a long silence on July 12 with a bomb attack on the Atlantic Institute, a Paris-based think-tank on international affairs.

Explosions followed at premises of the Defence and Industry Ministries on successive days. The only casualties came after the third blast when two people were injured by flying glass and a passing motorist hit a parked car.

Before it was banned, Action Directe carried out a series of anti-Jewish attacks in Paris.

Police said at the time that they believed it had probably no more than 100 active members.

## U.K., Spain edge towards Gibraltar breakthrough

By Brian Mooney

Reuter

MADRID — Britain and Spain are edging towards a breakthrough in their dispute over Gibraltar and diplomats from each country cautiously predict full-scale talks on the colony's future within months.

Quiet diplomacy has been in progress since British Foreign Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe and Spanish Foreign Minister Fernando Moran met last September during the closing session of the European Security Conference in Madrid.

They have met four times since and their experts have held regular meetings to work out details of a possible settlement of the dispute, a thorn in Anglo-Spanish relations since the British seized Gibraltar in 1704.

Official Spanish and British sources said the two sides had been trying to work out a way of implementing an agreement they reached in Lisbon in 1980, when Spain said it would lift its blockade of the colony in return for talks on all outstanding issues, including sovereignty.

For several reasons, including Spain's embarrassment over the 1982 war between Britain and Argentina over the Falkland Islands, the Lisbon agreement was never put into effect.

After the Socialist government took office in Madrid in December 1982, it made a gesture by re-opening to pedestrians the land border between Spain and the tiny rock peninsula. It was closed by dictator Francisco Franco in 1969.

Spain's hopes that Britain would reciprocate were unfulfilled and stalemate set in again until Sir Geoffrey and Mr. Moran met last year.

"I think we can now say that in working out a way to implement the Lisbon agreement on a scale of one to 10 we have reached eight and a half," said a Spanish Foreign Ministry source.

A British source said he would put "even money" on a breakthrough by the end of the year.

The new spirit of co-operation is seen on both sides as a consequence of Spain's entry into the European Community, due on Jan. 1, 1986.

Spain recognises it cannot continue to impose border restrictions once it is a member of the community. In return it wants concessions from Britain within the context of the Lisbon agreement to give the government strong arguments to justify re-opening the border.

Madrid is looking in particular at a section of the Lisbon agreement that says co-operation over Gibraltar would be based on reciprocal and equal rights for Spaniards and Gibraltarians.

Diplomats from each country said differences in interpretation of this clause were a sticking point.

The diplomats said implementation of the Lisbon agreement would mean only the start of a larger and more complex series of talks, ultimately over ownership.

The Spanish foreign minister has recognised that there will be no quick solution to the sovereignty dispute, which he said could take a generation to settle.

## Hungary backs E. German credit deal with Bonn

EAST BERLIN (R) — East Germany apparently ignored a scathing Soviet attack on its recent credit deal with West Germany Saturday while Hungary affirmed backing for East German leader Erich Honecker's bid to forge closer links with the West.

The Communist Party Daily Neues Deutschland breached Soviet bloc protocol by failing to reprint an authoritative article from its Moscow counterpart Pravda accusing Bonn of trying to prise concessions from East Berlin by economic means.

In its place the newspaper published another, more mildly worded, Soviet article lauding the decade of the 1970s.

Western diplomats said omission of the commentary, pub-

lished in Moscow on Thursday and clearly sanctioned at high level in the Kremlin, would probably heighten tensions between Moscow and East Berlin over Mr. Honecker's plans to visit West Germany next month.

The Hungarian political weekly Magyaroszag has meanwhile restated Budapest's backing for Mr. Honecker by publishing an article praising his foreign policy and his desire to be the first East German Communist leader to visit West Germany.

It dismissed Soviet warnings that East Germany's slight easing of East-West travel restrictions this week in return for a \$330 million West German loan showed Bonn was trying to undermine Communist rule.

## U.S. protests over attack on Marine in Leningrad

WASHINGTON (R) — The State Department Friday charged that a U.S. Marine guard was beaten up in Leningrad after being "set up" as part of a Soviet campaign to assault U.S. personnel in the Soviet Union.

Spokesman Alan Romberg told reporters a strong protest over the incident was lodged both here and in Moscow.

He said an off-duty Marine guard at the American consulate had gone to investigate a suspicious car that had been circling the building early Thursday.

"Two blocks from the consulate he was surrounded by militiamen

and plainclothesmen, beaten and taken to a station," Mr. Romberg said, adding: "The incident was a clear set-up without any provocation whatsoever."

Mr. Romberg said: "There have been several serious incidents in the Soviet Union over the past few months involving American tourists and officials that show a disturbing pattern of official involvement in a campaign to harass and isolate Americans in the Soviet Union."

He said the U.S. government had raised the issue with Moscow on a number of occasions, "but we have not received a satisfactory response."

## GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN

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### AN ENTRY IN TIME

Neither vulnerable. South deals.

**NORTH**  
♠ 7642  
♥ 95  
♦ 8543  
♣ KQJ

**WEST**  
♠ J1083  
♥ 107  
♦ K72  
♣ 9864

**EAST**  
♠ 95  
♥ 864  
♦ J109  
♣ 107532

**SOUTH**  
♠ AKQ  
♥ AKQJ32  
♦ AQ6  
♣ A

The bidding:  
South West North East  
2♥ Pass 2NT Pass  
6♥ Pass Pass Pass  
Opening lead: Jack of ♣.

If you suspect that this hand was not dealt at the table you would be right. It is a lesson hand we used to use quite often in classes. Until one day something happened, and we had to change it slightly.

There is nothing to the auction. Since as little as the jack of diamonds in partner's hand would make the alarm lay down, to bid anything less than six hearts at South's second turn would be rank cowardice.

We gave this hand to a group who were playing a practice session after one of our seminars. The directed contract was six hearts, and

the universal lead was the jack of spades. Obviously, if declarer had an entry to the table, the hand would be a planola. Lacking that entry, though, an optimistic declarer would either play ace of diamonds and another, hoping to drop the king, or else lay down the ace of hearts to try to drop the ten, which would create an entry out of the nine. As you can see, both these lines are due to fail.

The correct line is to win the opening lead, cash the ace of clubs and now lead a low trump toward the nine. That succeeds in all cases where West has the ten. The nine of trumps becomes an entry to dummy, and declarer can discard his two diamonds on the table's high clubs.

The jack of spades was the lead at every table except one, and most of the declarers found the winning line. At one table, however, an individual elected to lead a low trump. Declarer was good enough to play dummy's nine, which secured an immediate entry to the board, but since the ace of clubs had not yet been unblocked, he could not take diamond discards. Instead, he had to rely on the diamond finesse. Alas, we had not had the foresight to provide East with the king of diamonds, so declarer went down one!

## Cuba, U.S. conclude talks

WASHINGTON (AP) — The United States and Cuba have concluded a second round of talks on immigration issues and agreed to continue the dialogue at a later date, the State Department said Friday.

The department's Deputy Spokesman Alan Romberg said the mood of the talks, held Tuesday through Thursday in New York,

was "serious" but that no agreements on ending differences dating back to 1980 were reached.

The United States wants to deport thousands of Cuban refugees who are ineligible to remain in the country because of criminal records or health problems.

The first round of talks was held in mid-July.

## Four Salvadorean rebels surrender after releasing all hostages in bank

SOYAPANGO, El Salvador (R) — Four left-wing guerrillas who held 73 people hostage in a bank for 19 hours surrendered Friday after mediators failed to find a country willing to give them political asylum.

The gunmen gave themselves up and released their captives, held in a bank in near the capital since Thursday, unharmed.

Negotiators from the International Red Cross, the Spanish embassy, and the Salvadorean Foreign Ministry found no country willing to receive them.

The four identified themselves as members of the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front (FMLN), an umbrella group for five combat groups fighting the

U.S.-backed government here. Two Red Cross jeeps took them from the two-storey building of the Commercial Agricultural Bank to a magistrate in Soyapango where after making statements, the four — wearing bandanas and broad-brimmed hats — were driven to Mariona Prison on the outskirts of San Salvador.

Col. Jesus Caceres Natividad, of El Salvador's Treasury Police, said all 73 staff and customers who were in the bank when the gunmen seized it were safe.

Earlier estimates of the number of hostages had ranged from 40 to 125.

The gunmen released 10 hostages — three children and seven women — overnight. After the

guerrillas surrendered, the rest emerged, one by one, to tearful reunions with relatives who had been waiting nearby.

"They made us lie face down for an hour but they always said nothing would happen to us," said 45-year-old Camillo Cruz.

Police said the guerrillas had left behind a hand grenade, two submachine guns and two revolvers they used in an abortive attempt to rob the bank around noon on Thursday.

According to diplomatic sources, the death of a guard during the robbery attempt was the chief reason several countries, including Mexico and Spain, refused to grant permanent political asylum to the guerrillas.

## U.N. publication delayed by row over article on Antarctica

UNITED NATIONS (R) — A row over an article about Antarctica, raising both Soviet and U.S. objections, has delayed publication of a monthly U.N. magazine since February, a U.N. spokesman told reporters Friday.

He said the magazine, called U.N. Chronicle, would soon reappear, but without the controversial item.

United Nations sources said senior U.N. officials from both the United States and the Soviet Union had raised objections to the article, while the magazine staff had urged its inclusion.

Antarctica became a hot issue at last year's General Assembly when Third World countries called for a say in decision-making at

present exercised by 16 mostly industrialised countries that are parties to a 1959 Antarctic treaty.

These include the United States and the Soviet Union which along with other treaty members, unsuccessfully opposed U.N. debate on the subject.

The assembly debate ended with a request to Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar to prepare a study of the situation in Antarctica.

According to U.N. sources, those who favoured publication of the article said it was a straightforward, factual account of the assembly debate.

Opponents argued it should not appear until the secretary general had completed his report, which is still awaited.

## Britain says Argentina went against agreed basis of talks

UNITED NATIONS (R) — Britain said Friday night Argentina's refusal to continue talks held last month in Bern, Switzerland, was "at variance with the agreed basis" for the meeting.

In a letter to Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar, Britain's U.N. Charge d'Affaires, Ambassador John Margetson, said it had been agreed in advance that if the Argentine side raised the question of sovereignty over the disputed Falkland Islands, the British representatives would make clear that they were not prepared to discuss it and discussion would then move on to "practical issues of concern to both sides."

Britain complied scrupulously with this arrangement, he stated, but the Argentine representatives said they were not prepared to discuss normalisation of relations unless a mechanism for addressing the question of sovereignty was also established.

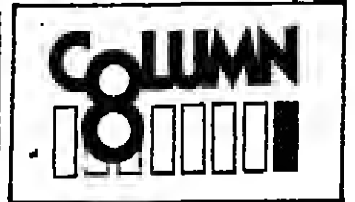
"This was at variance with the agreed basis for the talks which thus came to an end," Mr. Mar-

getson said. Rebutting a letter to the U.N. chief last month from Argentina, Mr. Margetson said: "The British government's attitude is wholly consistent with the provisions of the U.N. charter, contrary to the assertion in the third paragraph of the letter from the Argentine permanent representative."

"It is a mis-statement of the charter to suggest that the obligation to seek solutions by peaceful means requires that, irrespective of the circumstances, recourse must be had, solely or even primarily, to negotiation."

He said the search for a peaceful solution to the two countries' differences was broken off in 1982 when Argentina "resorted to armed aggression" against the Falklands in flagrant violation of the charter.

"That event created a new situation in which the need is for both sides to work together to create a climate of confidence between them."



## Indian cartoonist gets award

MANILA, Philippines (AP) — R.K. Laxman, editorial cartoonist of the Indian newspaper the Times of India, has been chosen winner of the prestigious 1984 Ramon Magsaysay award for journalism, the award foundation announced Friday. It cited Mr. Laxman for "his incisive, witty, never malicious cartoons illuminating India's political and social issues" and said that cartoonists like him are not only a "special breed within the journalistic community" but also "very rare." Laxman, 58, a native of Mysore, south India, is the second Asian honoured this year with a Magsaysay Award, which is named after the Philippine president killed in a 1957 plane crash and is regarded as Asia's version of the Nobel Prize. The foundation named Yunus of Bangladesh as the winner of the 1984 Award for Community Leadership Friday. Winners of the Awards for Public Service, Government Service and International Understanding are to be announced in the next few days. The awards, which carry a gold medal and \$20,000 in cash each, are to be awarded in formal ceremonies here on Aug. 31.

## Most Americans reject Reagan's birth control policy

MEXICO CITY (R) — Americans overwhelmingly reject a Reagan administration plan to cut family planning aid for countries that allow abortion, according to a Gallup Poll published here Friday. The survey, conducted last month among 1,042 adults, was released at a preliminary meeting of the second United Nations Conference on Population which starts here on Monday. Delegates have said the Reagan administration plan to discourage abortion was likely to dominate debate and bring sharp criticism from Third World countries. The United States spent \$240 million on foreign birth control aid last year.

## Theories advanced for kamikaze anchovies

SANTA CRUZ, California (AP) — Biologists are still puzzling over why millions of tiny anchovies invaded Santa Cruz in 1983, kamikaze (suicidal) run — the fourth in two decades — that caused them all to suffocate in the oxygen-depleted water. The school of fish that pushed against the central California shoreline and into the 1.6 kilometre harbour last month was so large — perhaps 2,000 tons (1,800 metric tons) — that it rivalled a year's commercial fishing harvest in the area. Within hours, the oxygen supply in the harbour, which has berths for 900 boats, was exhausted. It fell to 0.4 parts per million, less than one-tenth of normal. The resulting mess was a blow for Santa Cruz businesses as the rank smell of rotting fish chased off summertime visitors. The phenomenon is not a new one in the harbour 112 kilometres south of San Francisco. Anchovies poured in — and died — in massive numbers in 1964, 1974 and 1980.

## 8 found knifed to death in church

AYACUCHO, Peru (R) — The bodies of eight people knifed to death have been found in a Protestant Church near this southeast Peruvian city, a government spokesman said Friday. The spokesman for the prefect's office said the bodies were of seven men and one woman, aged between 45 and 60. They were recovered Thursday in Huanta, 50 kilometres north of Ayacucho. The identity of the killers was unknown, he said.

## 'Drought' minister drenched

TOTTIFORD RESERVOIR, England (R) — Britain's "Drought" Minister Ian Gow was drenched by a downpour during a whistle-stop tour of parched south west England Thursday. Mr. Gow, a junior environment minister put in charge of tackling the region's worst drought for decades, said he was delighted at the rain. But he added: "I don't have any magic powers. We have to put our trust in the Almighty for rain — not in Her Majesty's ministers."

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